IF YOU'VE GOT GOALS IN YOUR LIFE, YOU CAN LIVE MORE ACTIVE.

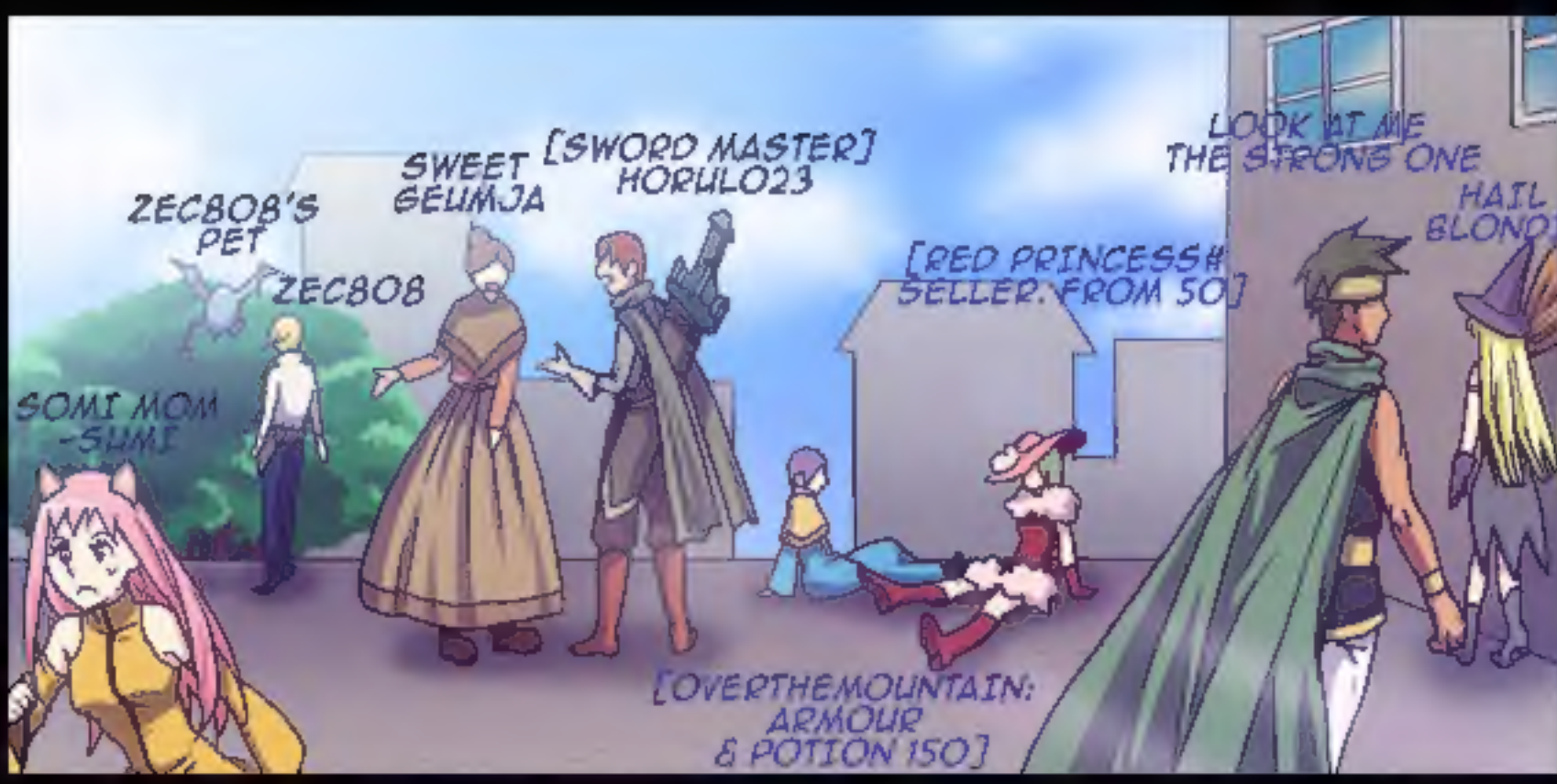
-SAGE UNKNOWN

THE GAMER

STORY BY SANGYOUNG SEONG
ILLUST BY SANG-A

EP. 1 QUESTS ABOVE THE HEAD

I REMEMBER SO CALLED
'NETIZEN' FELLOWS
WHO LOVED GAME SAYING THIS.



HOW GREAT WOULD IT
BE IF LIFE WAS A GAME!

WHAT IF,

I HAVE LEVELS SHOWING ABOVE,

FIND OUT MY OWN EXP. POINTS, AND SET MY STATUS AS I WANT?

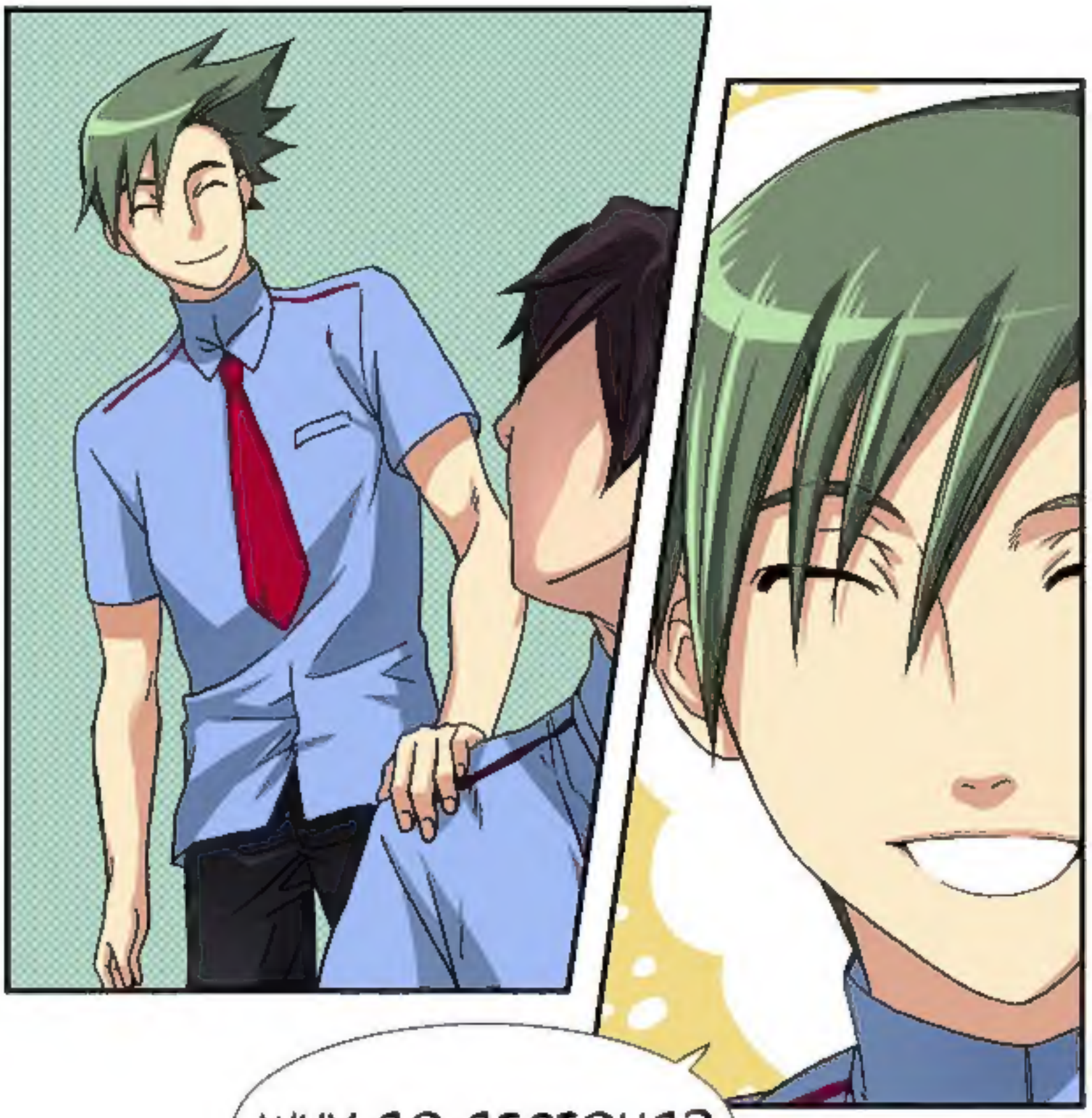
BUT, TO TELL THE TRUTH,
IF YOU ASK ME
IF IT IS REALLY GOOD,

I WOULD ANSWER
-LIKE THIS.

NAH.

NOT GOOD AT ALL.

HEY.



WHY SO SERIOUS?

<SUCCESSOR OF CHEONBU FAMILY>
LV 25 SEONIL S.

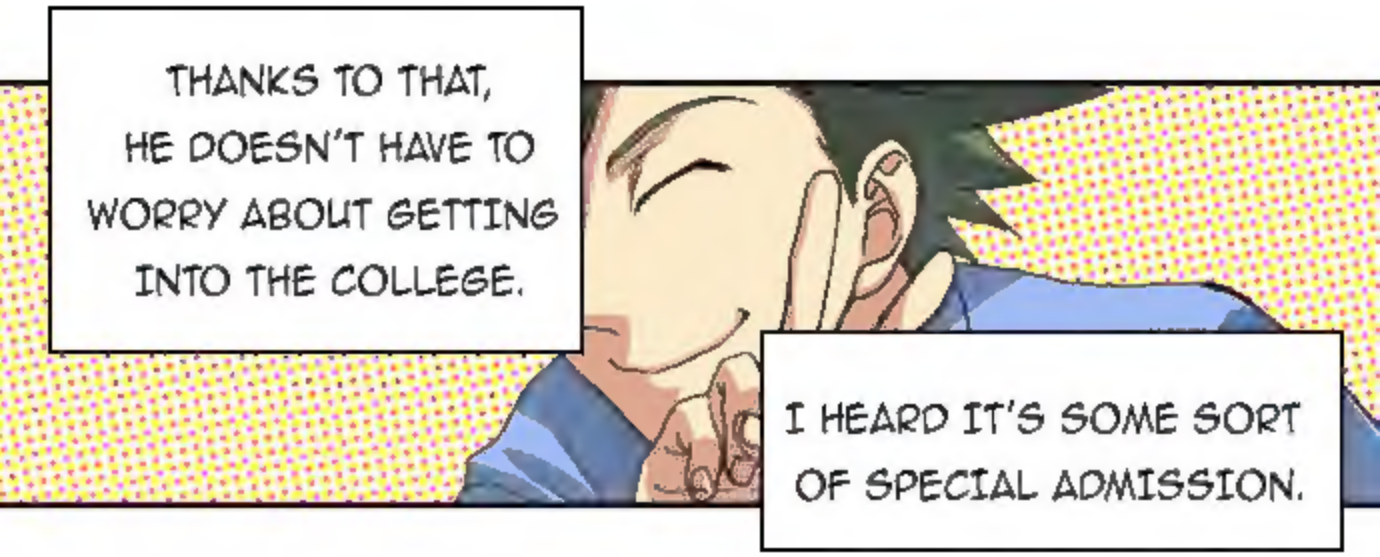
?.

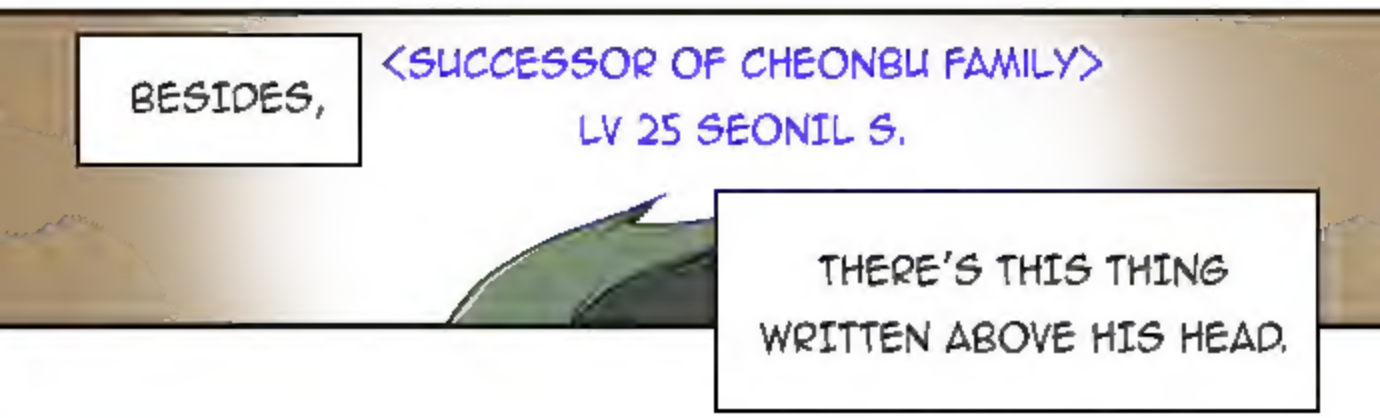
HE'S MY OLD FRIEND, SEONIL SHIN.

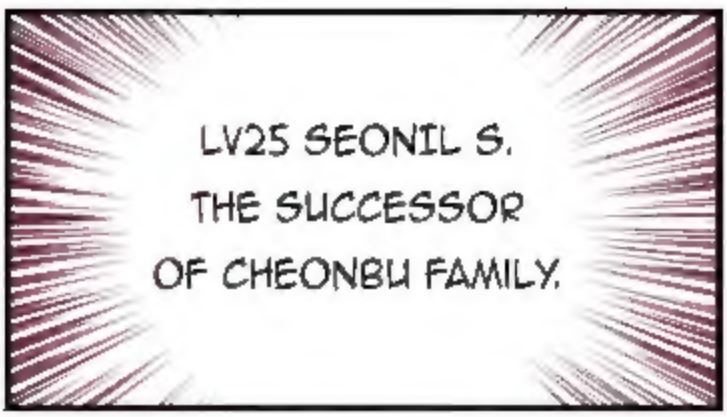
HE LEARNED TAEKKYON OR SOMETHING, THE KOREAN TRADITIONAL MARTIAL ARTS.

HE ALSO LEARNED TAEKWONDO AT THE SAME TIME.

AND HE WON GOLD MEDAL AT JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP.

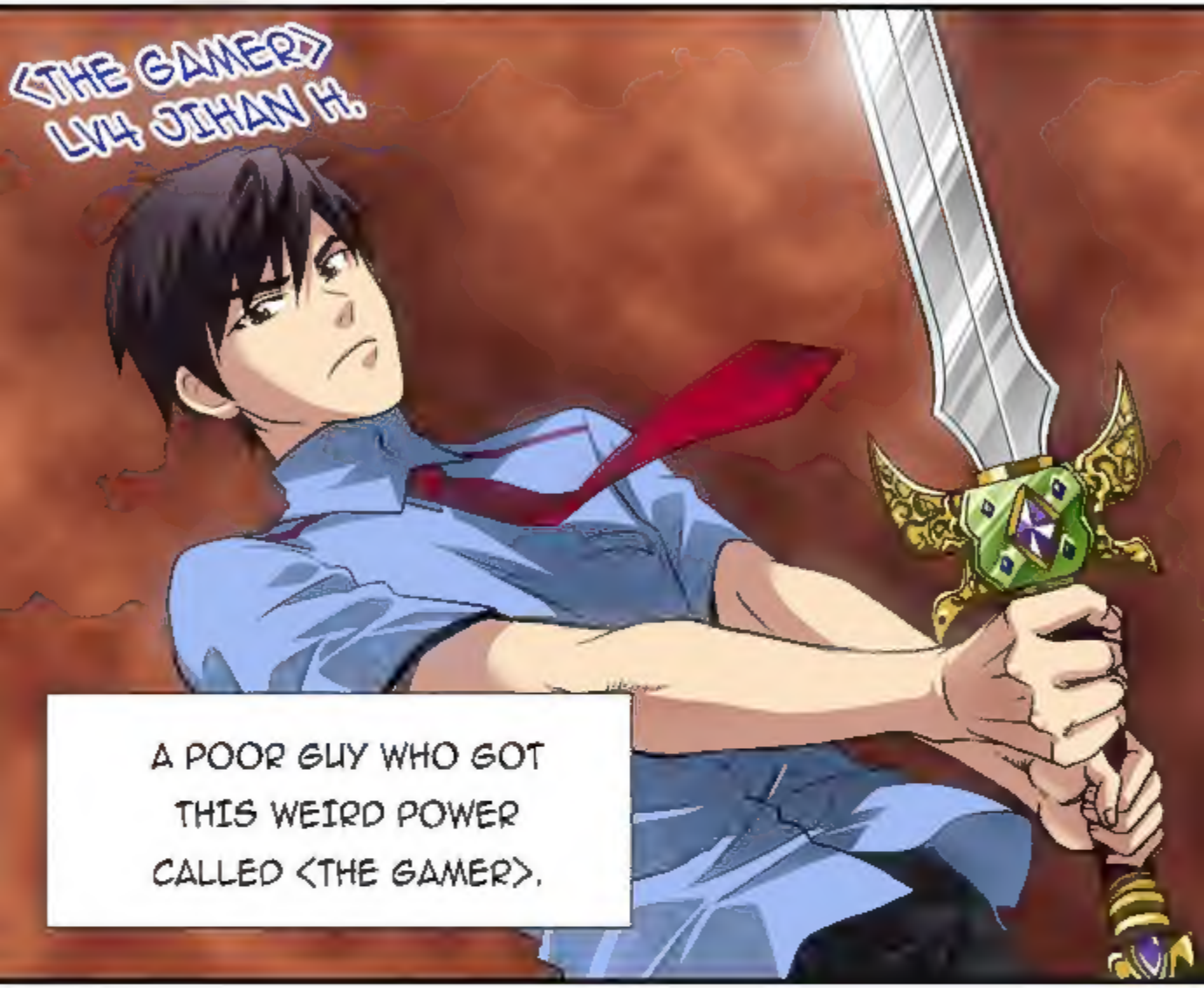

THANKS TO THAT, HE DOESN'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT GETTING INTO THE COLLEGE.
I HEARD IT'S SOME SORT OF SPECIAL ADMISSION.

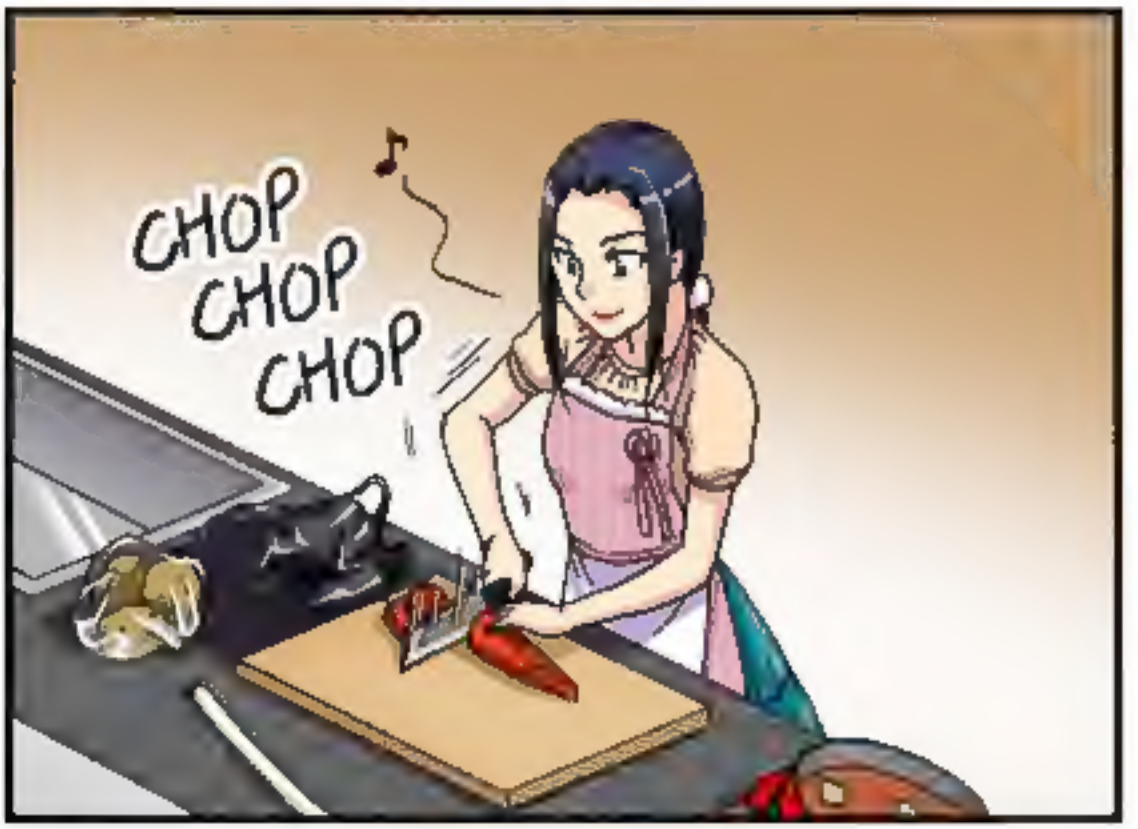

BESIDES,
<SUCCESSOR OF CHEONBU FAMILY>
LV 25 SEONIL S.
THERE'S THIS THING WRITTEN ABOVE HIS HEAD.

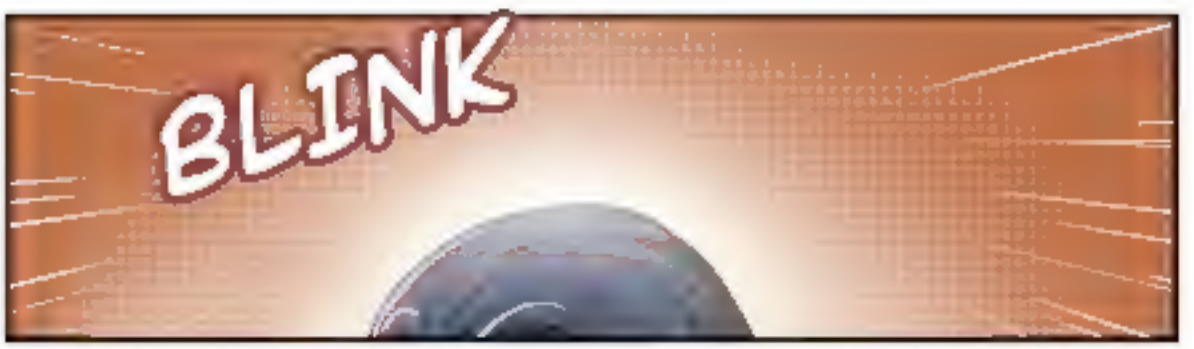

LV25 SEONIL S.
THE SUCCESSOR
OF CHEONBU FAMILY.

WHY DID THE WORLD CHANGE LIKE A GAME?

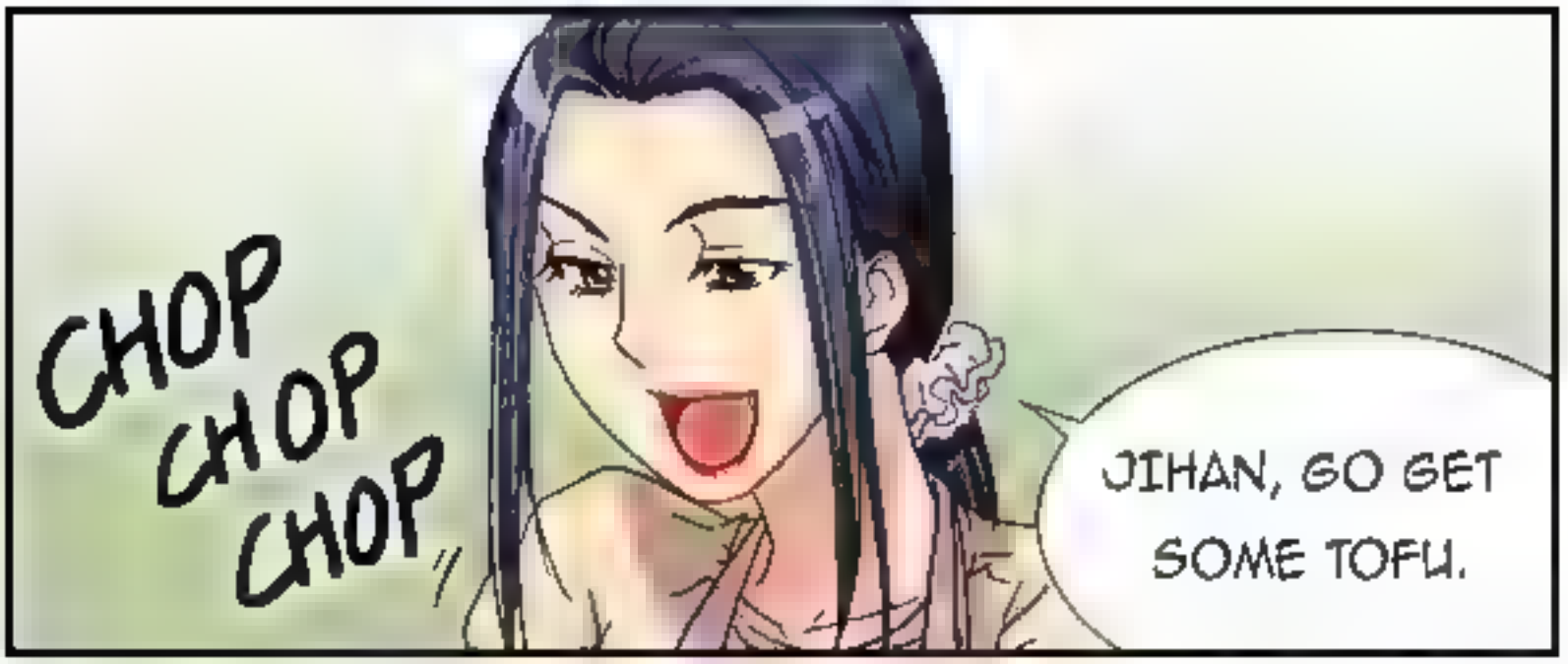
MY NAME IS JIHAN HAN.


<THE GAMER>
LV4 JIHAN H.
A POOR GUY WHO GOT THIS WEIRD POWER CALLED <THE GAMER>.

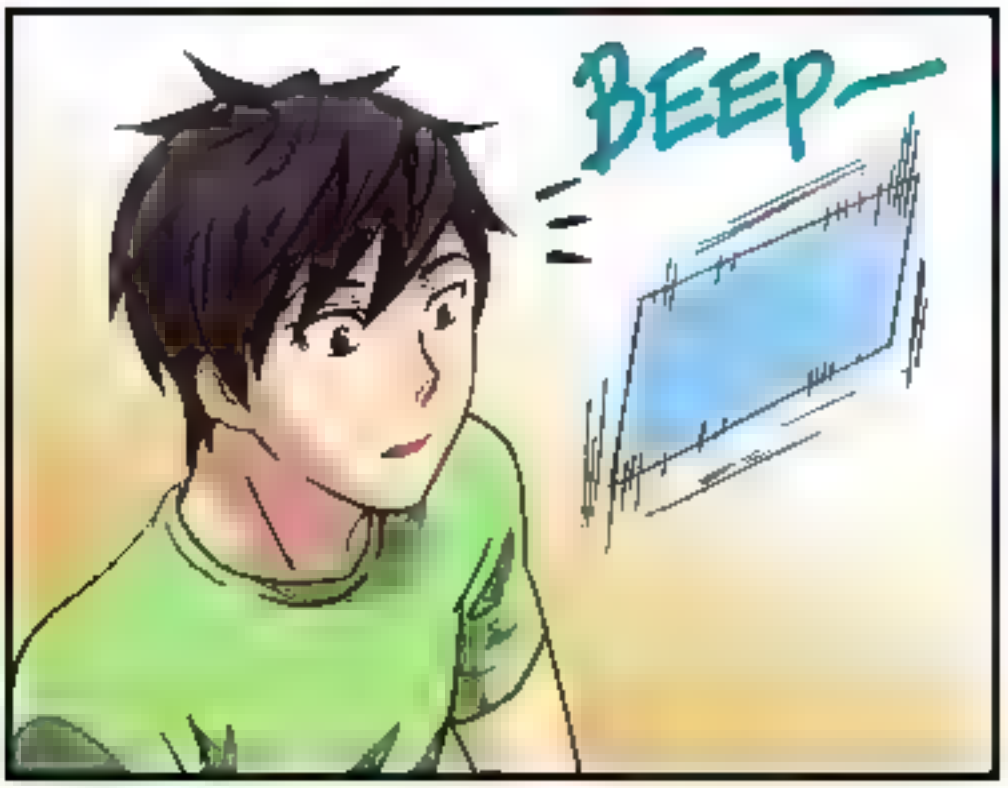

CHOP
CHOP
CHOP

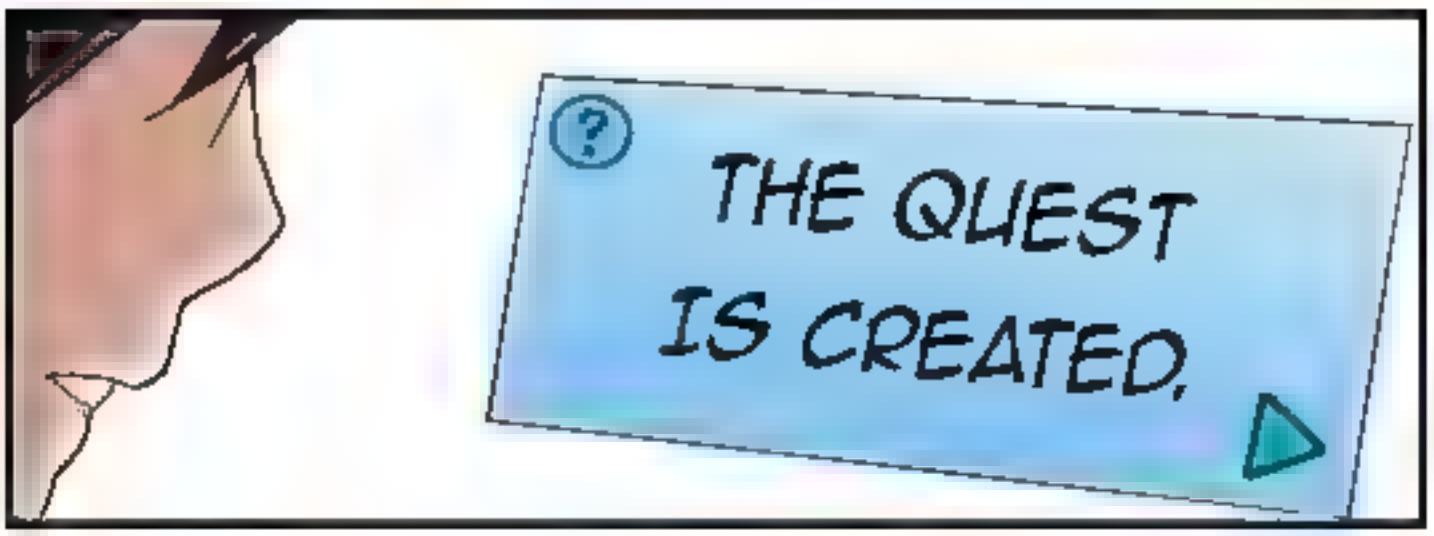

BLINK

POP
?

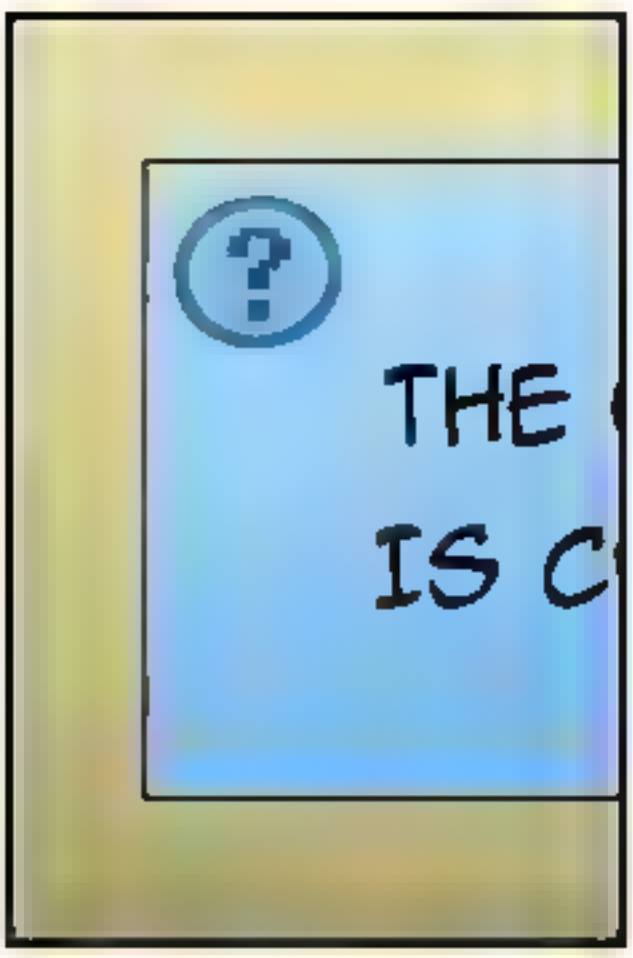

CHOP
CHOP
CHOP
JIHAN, GO GET SOME TOFU.

BLINK
CHOP
CHOP


BEEP—



A SCREEN APPEARED IN FRONT OF ME
WHILE I WAS DOING MY HOMEWORK.



YES. IT'S CALLED
THE QUEST
ALERT SCREEN.

IT USUALLY
POPS OUT ONLY
IN A GAME.

BUT EVEN THOUGH THIS IS THE REALITY,

I SEE THIS SCREEN EVERY DAY.

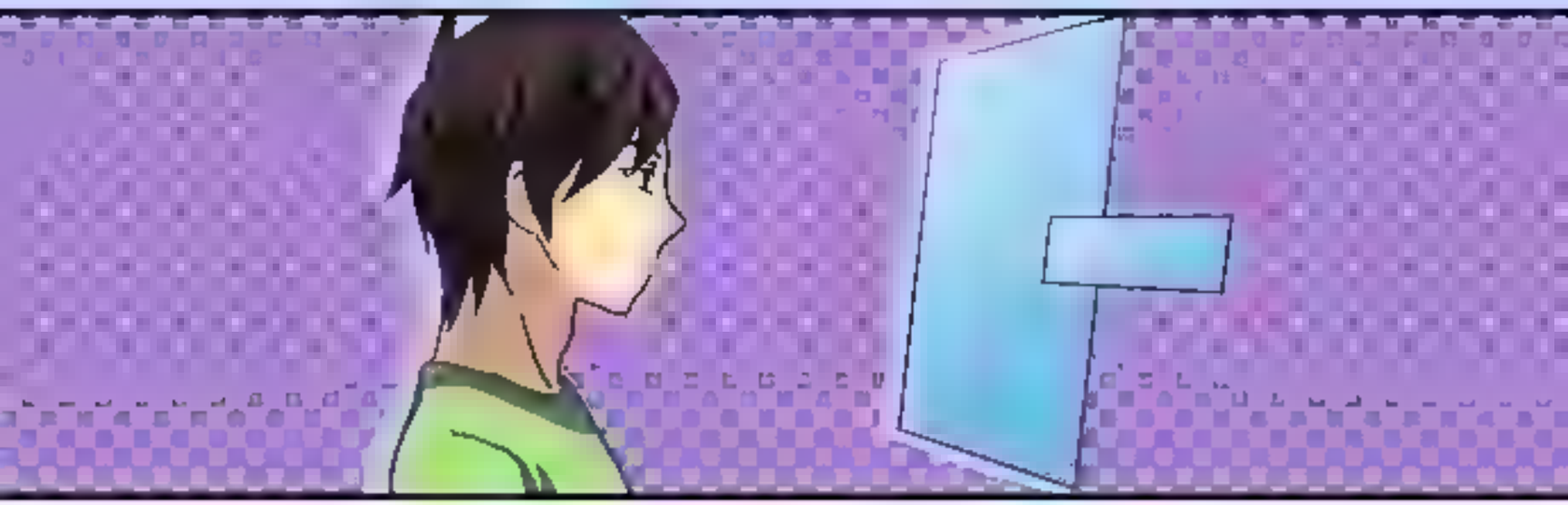
QUEST ALERT

TASK FROM MOM: GO GET SOME TOFU!

THE GAMER'S MOM WANTS TOFU FOR COOKING. LET'S BE QUICK AND GET HER SOME TOFU!

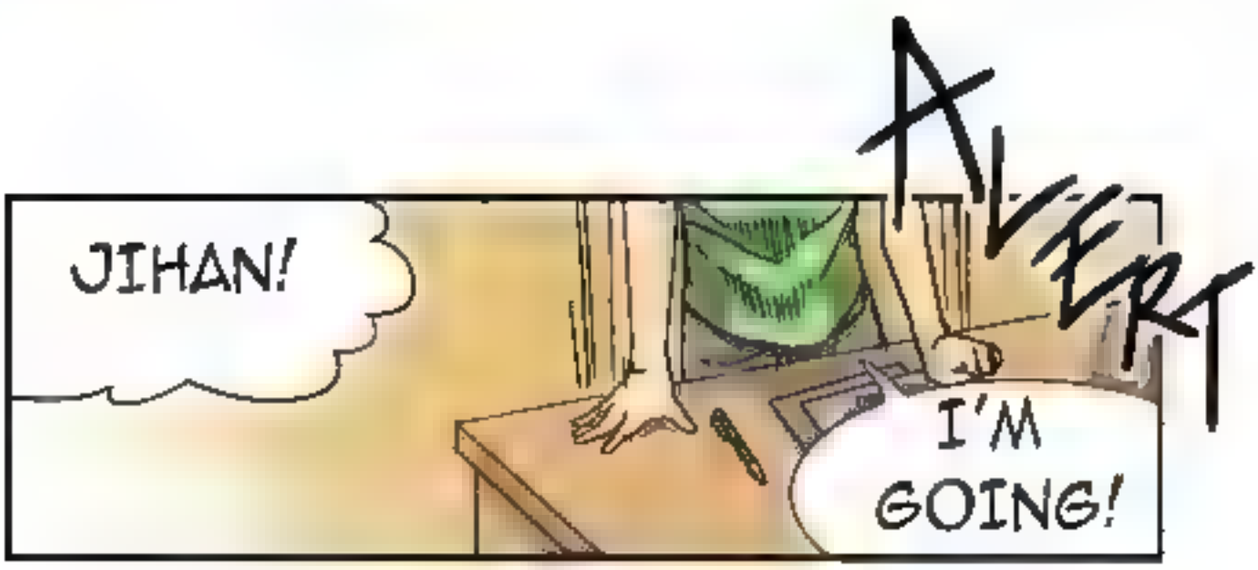
ACCEPT Y DENY N

LIMIT TIME: 1 HOUR
REWARD: EXP. +500
INCREASE OF THE CLOSENESS WITH MOM.
FAIL PENALTY: NAGGING MOM
DECREASE OF MOM'S FAITH IN YOU.

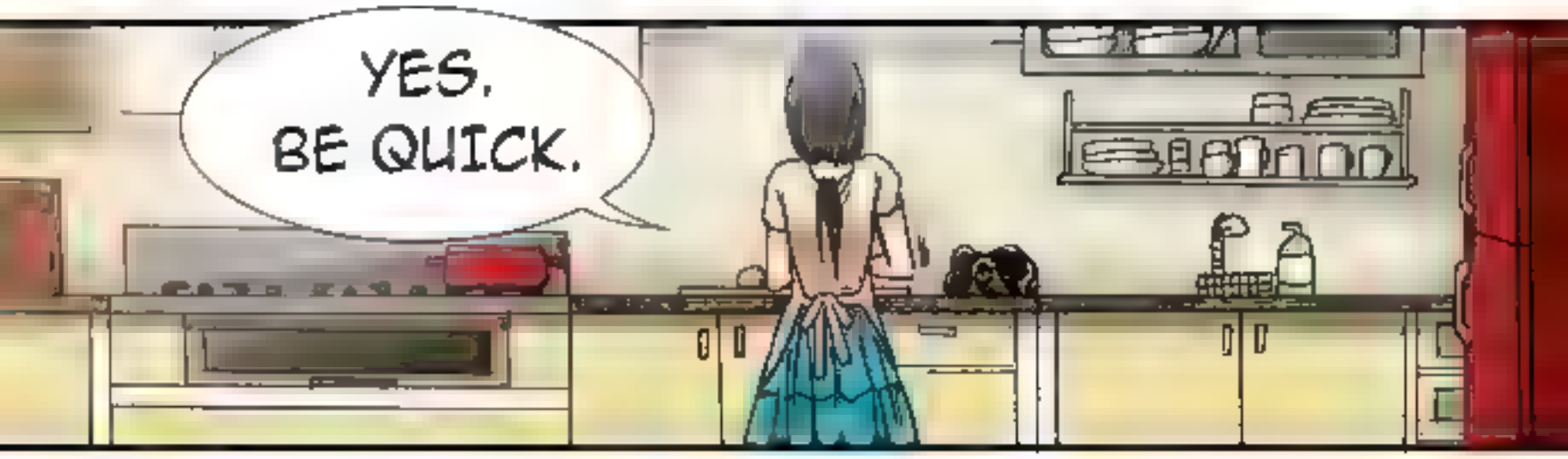


SIGH

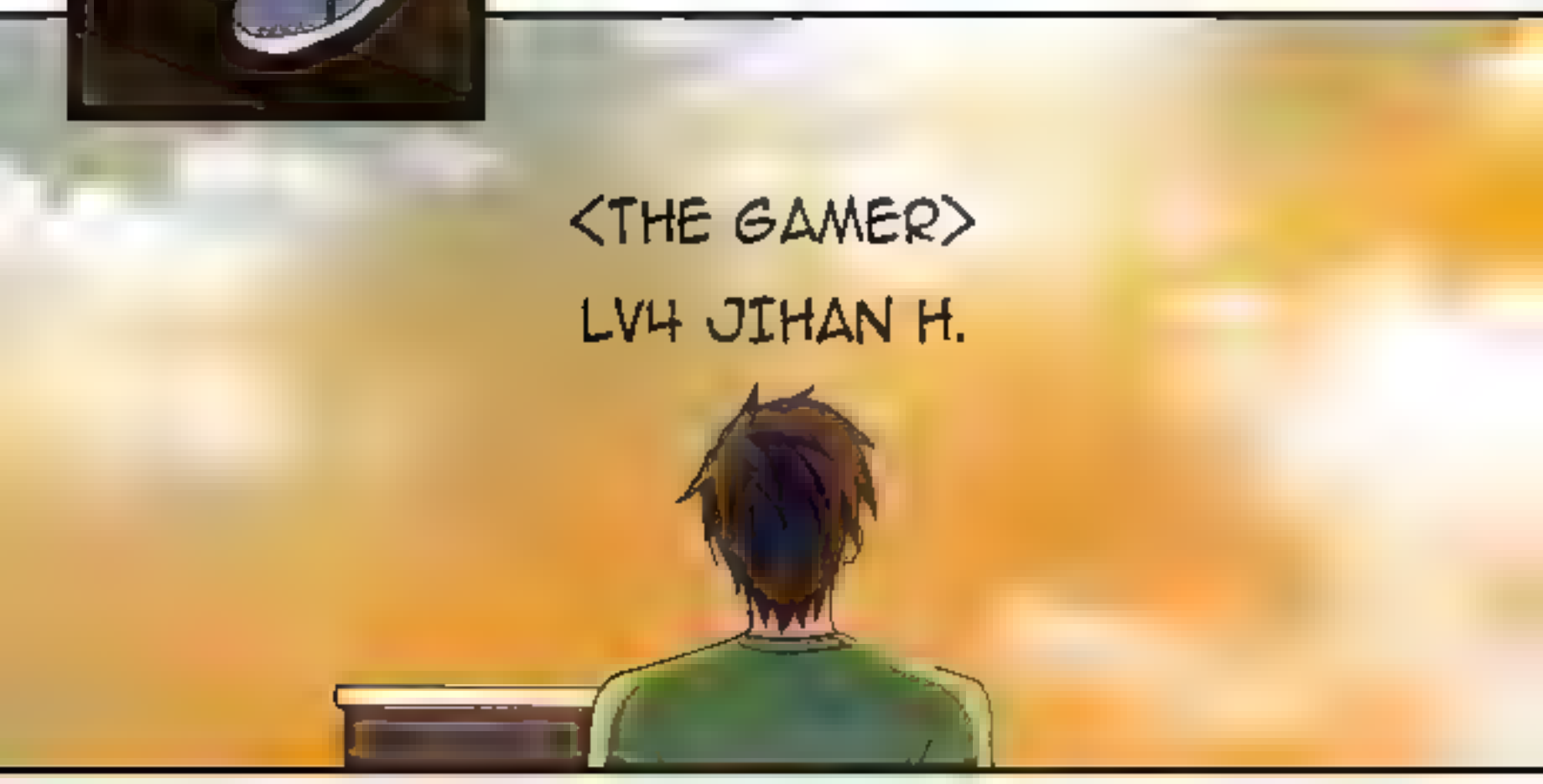
I CAN NEVER GET USED TO THIS.


JIHAN!
ALERT
I'M GOING!

IS TOFU
ALL YOU NEED?

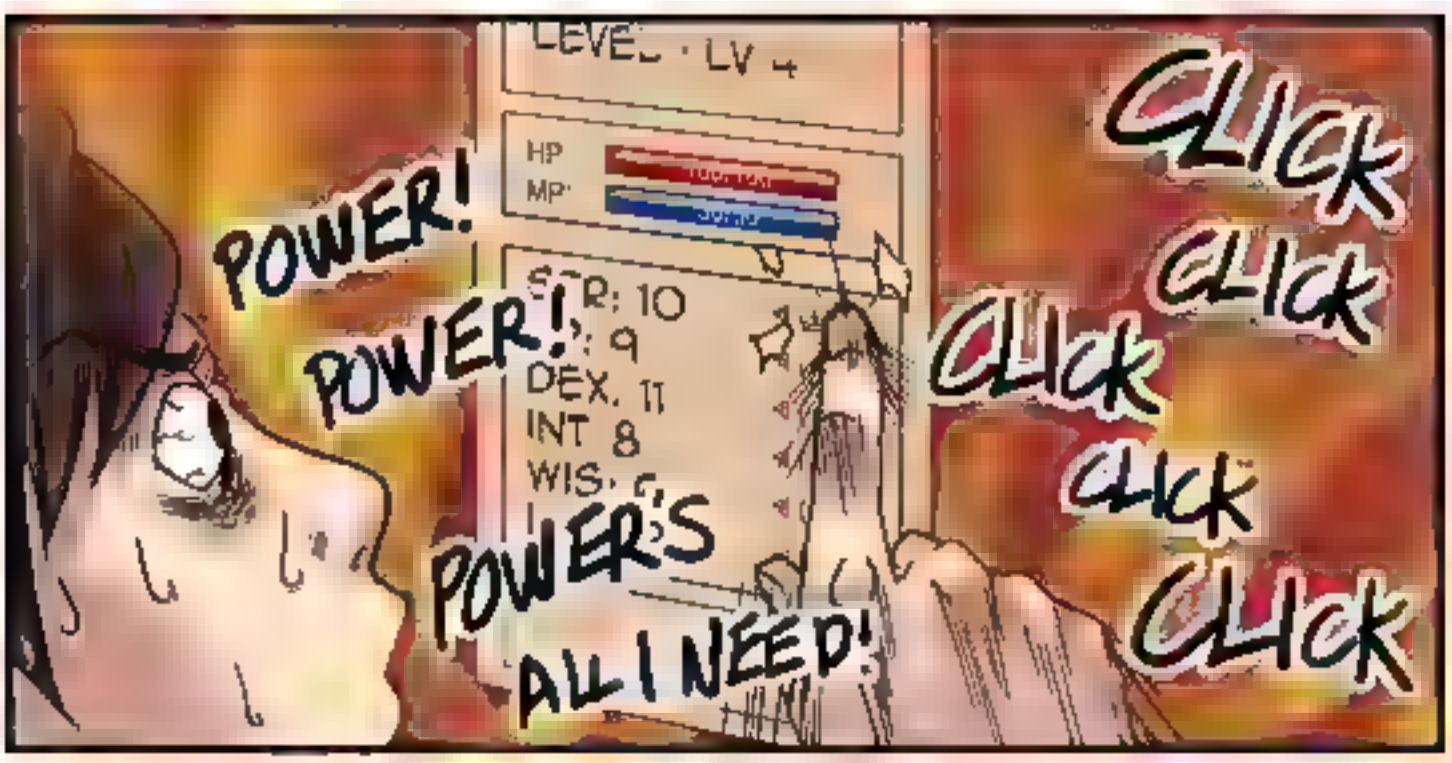

YES.
BE QUICK.

ALRIGHT.
A WONDERED
WHILE ANSWERING.

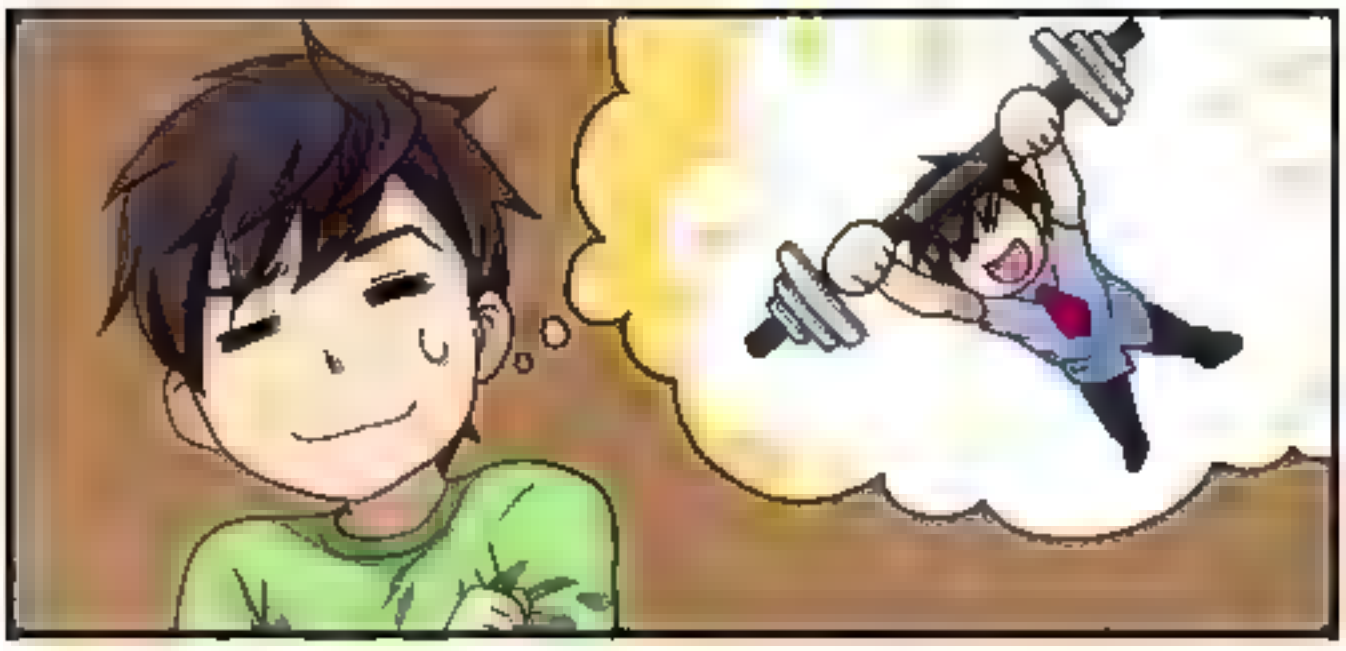


HOW DID THIS HAPPEN TO ME?

A FEW DAYS AGO, MY LEVEL WENT UP BY SOLVING A QUESTS.



I RAISED POINTS FOR POWER, AND IT REALLY DID GET STRONG.



WHAT'S ALL THIS? WHY AM I LIKE A REAL GAME CHARACTER?

HOW MANY TIMES I ASK MYSELF, I CAN'T FIND AN ANSWER.

BUT ONE THING
IS FOR SURE.

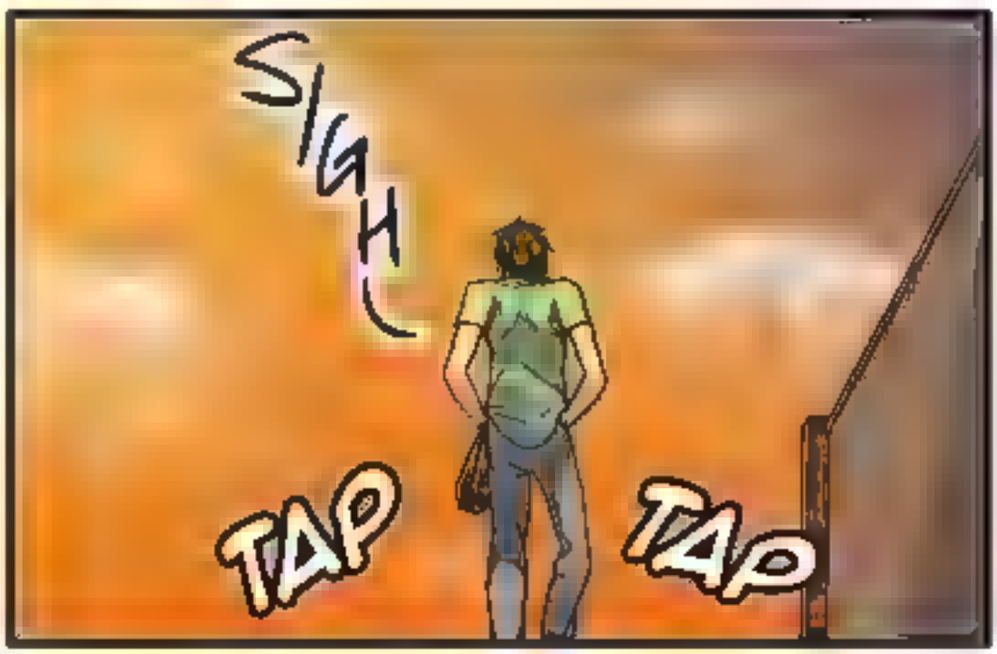
I'VE GOT
A WEIRD POWER.

THE GAMER

YOU ACQUIRED
THE QUEST ITEM [TOFU] .

CLICK

POP UP
FOR EVERYTHING


SIGH
TAP
TAP

I DOUBT NOW THINKING THAT IF I'M LIVING IN A NORMAL WORLD.

IS THIS REALLY THE REALITY?

WELL, I JUST FEEL LIKE... WHATEVER.

ONE FUNNY THING IS THE WAY I GET EXP. POINTS.

IN A GAME, YOU GAIN EXP. BY KILLING MONSTERS.

BUT NOT HERE.

IT'S ODD, BUT I GET EXP. BY ACTIONS AND QUESTS ONLY.

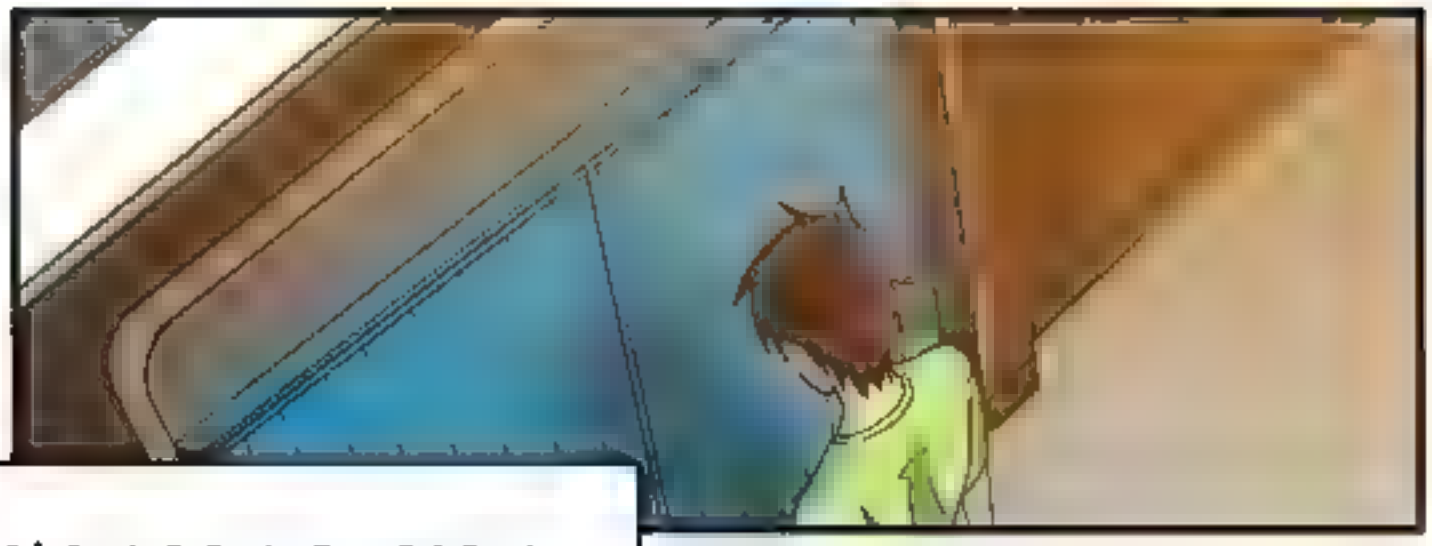
FOR EXAMPLE,
IF I WORK OUT
EXP. INCREASES
LITTLE BY LITTLE,

EXP UP!

EXP UP!

AND IF I STUDY, IT
ALSO INCREASES
LITTLE BY LITTLE.

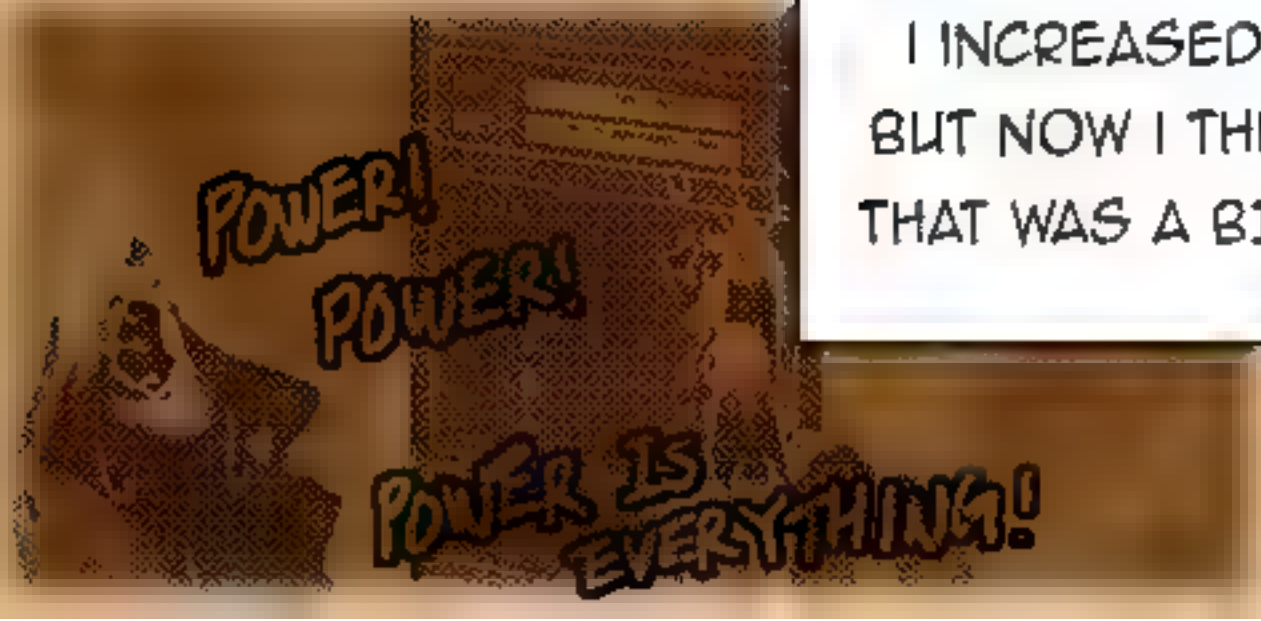
BUT IT'S REALLY HARD TO INCREASE THE LEVEL.



IT'S BEEN QUITE A TIME SINCE I NOTICED THIS ABILITY.

BUT I ONLY GAINED 1 LEVEL.

AND WITH THAT LEVEL UP I INCREASED POWER, BUT NOW I THINK OF IT, THAT WAS A BIT STUPID.



FRANKLY SPEAKING,
DO YOU NEED STRENGTH
IN MODERN SOCIETY?

WOULDN'T I GET
SMARTER IF I INCREASE
THE INTELLIGENCE?

I SHOULD'VE
INCREASED THE
INTELLIGENCE.

I'M BACK.

GIVE IT TO ME.

JEONGSOOK HAN, SHE'S MY MOM.

SHE'S ABOUT 40 NOW.

BUT FOR SOME REASON, HER APPEARANCE IS AROUND MID 20S.

<????>
LV?? JEONGSOOK H.

AND I DON'T KNOW WHY,

BUT EVERYTHING IS SHOWN IN QUESTION MARKS EXCEPT HER NAME.

I WONDER IF MY MOM IS SPECIAL TOO...

MOM, IS IT SOYBEAN PASTE STEW TODAY?

TAP

YES.

NOPE

TAP

IS THERE SOMETHING ELSE THAT YOU WANT?

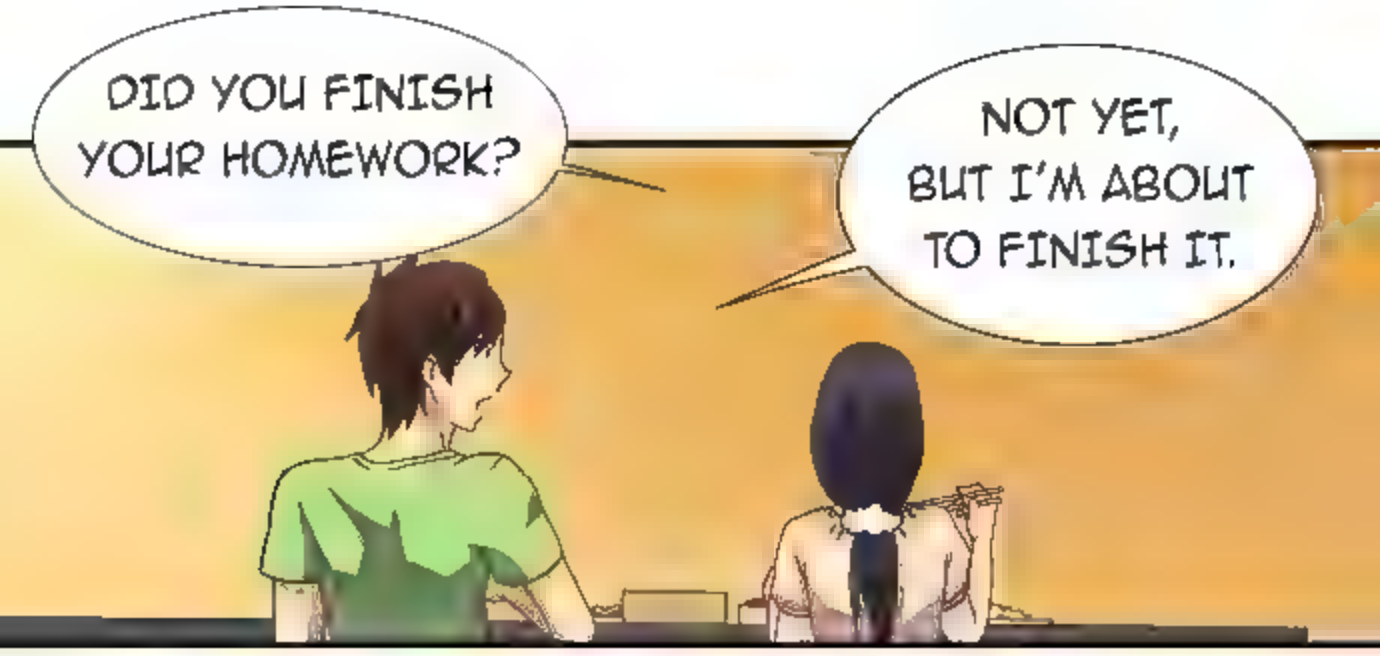
I'M ALMOST DONE. WAIT THERE.

WHAT ABOUT DAD?

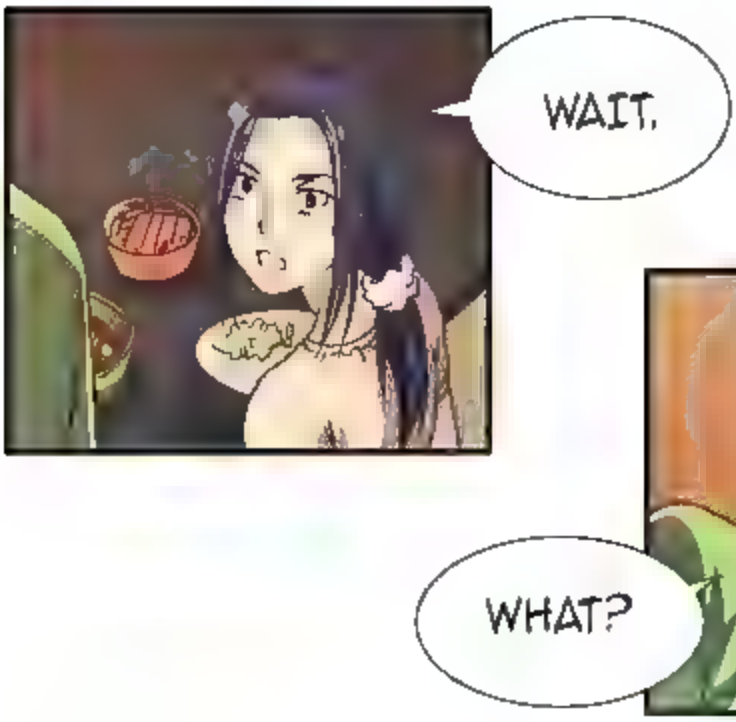
HE SAID HE'LL HAVE DINNER ON HIS OWN.

THANK YOU FOR THE MEAL, MOM.

<THE GAMER>
LV4 JIHAN H.


DID YOU FINISH YOUR HOMEWORK?
NOT YET, BUT I'M ABOUT TO FINISH IT.

CLANG
I'M DONE.


WAIT.
WHAT?

BEEP ?
DO THE DISHES.
A QUEST IS CREATED.

IF SOMEONE ASKS ME WHAT LIFE IS,

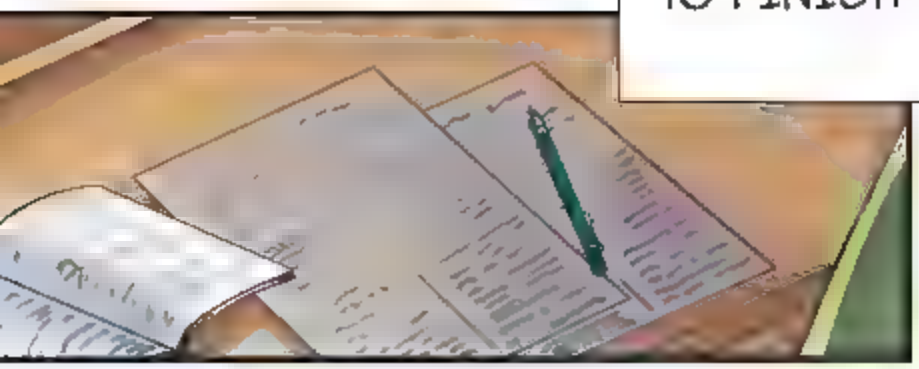
I'LL TELL HIM IT'S ABOUT HOMEWORKS AND TASKS.

WHY?

IN FACT, I'M NOT GOOD AT STUDYING.

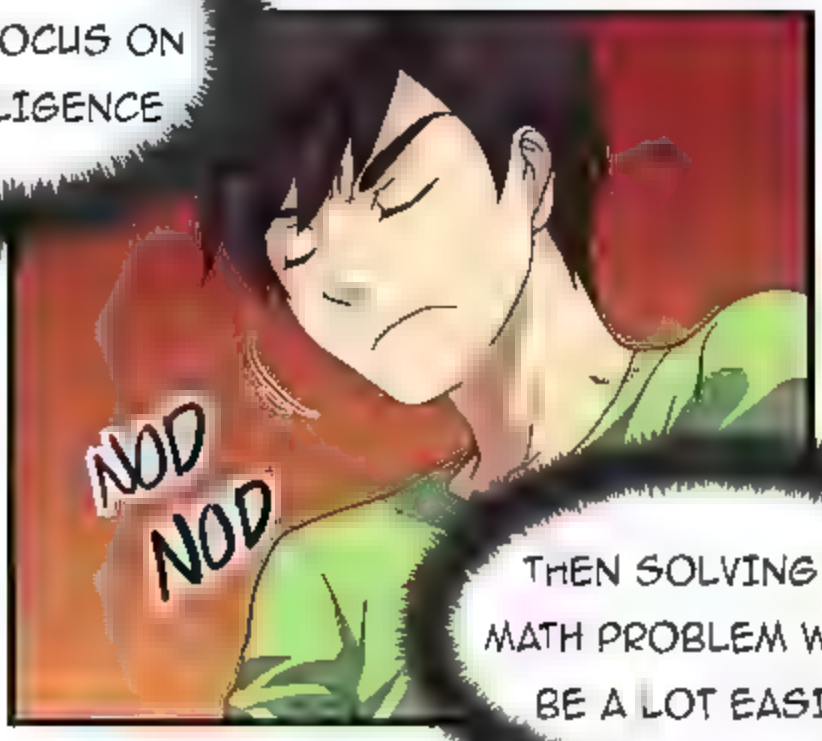
I DON'T REALLY KNOW IF I'LL DO WELL AT S.A.T. EVEN IF I STUDY LIKE THIS.

ACTUALLY, IT'S THE QUEST THAT MADE ME WORK HARD TO FINISH THE HOMEWORK.



IF I HAND THIS IN TO THE MATH TEACHER, I'LL GET EXP.

FROM NOW ON, I SHOULD FOCUS ON THE INTELLIGENCE



THEN SOLVING THE MATH PROBLEM WOULD BE A LOT EASIER.

ANYWAY, NOW THE HOMEWORK IS DONE , I'LL SPEND SOME TIME PLAYING GAMES...
TURN
BEEP!
HUH?
THANKS TO THE CONTINUOUS STUDY, YOUR INTELLIGENCE INCREASED BY 1.

THE GAMER

STORY BY SANGYOUNG SEONG
ILLUST BY SANG-A

LINE Webtoon

I HEARD THAT
A HUMAN BEING SOMETIMES
USES SUPER POWER
WHEN THEY ARE IN
AN UNEXPECTED TROUBLE.

BUT
THE POINT IS,
IT'S 'SOMETIMES'.

THE GAMER

STORY BY SANGYOUNG SEONG
ILLUST BY SAN_A

HEROS IN COMIC OR NOVELS ESCAPE FROM THESE WITH SOME SORT OF THEIR SIXTH SENSE.

BUT IT CAN'T HAPPEN TO AN ORDINARY MAN LIKE ME

WELL, I KNOW IT'S HARD TO SAY THAT I AM 'ORDINARY'.

DARN.

BUT I...

DON'T HAVE SUPER POWER EVEN IN A WEIRD SITUATION LIKE THIS!!

GRRR
ROAR

WHAT'S ALL THIS ABOUT?

TURN

WHERE
THE HELL AM I?

ONLY YESTERDAY
THAT I WAS AMAZED TO
FIND OUT THE FACT THAT
STUDYING MAKES
MY KNOWLEDGE
INCREASE

BUT WHAT IS ALL THESE
ALL OF A SUDDEN?

I SHOULD
BE CALM.

OPEN

STARE

<SPIRIT FLAME FIGHTER>
LV 32 SHIYEON KWON

...HER LEVEL IS 32!?

DOES THAT MEAN SHE'S 8 TIMES STRONGER THAN ME?

THEN HE'S...

IT DOESN'T MATTER IF THEY ARE STRONG OR NOT.

I SHOULD GET OUT OF HERE FIRST.

THIS IS MY RUN AWAY TECHNIQUE!

IT MEANS BURNING YOUR SPIRIT.

I HEARD THAT THE MARTIAL ARTS THAT BURNS THE SPIRIT PAY BIG COSTS TO USE BUT IT'S STRONG.
魂
BUT I DIDN'T KNOW IT WAS STRONG ENOUGH TO FIGHT MY SUMMON ANIMAL.

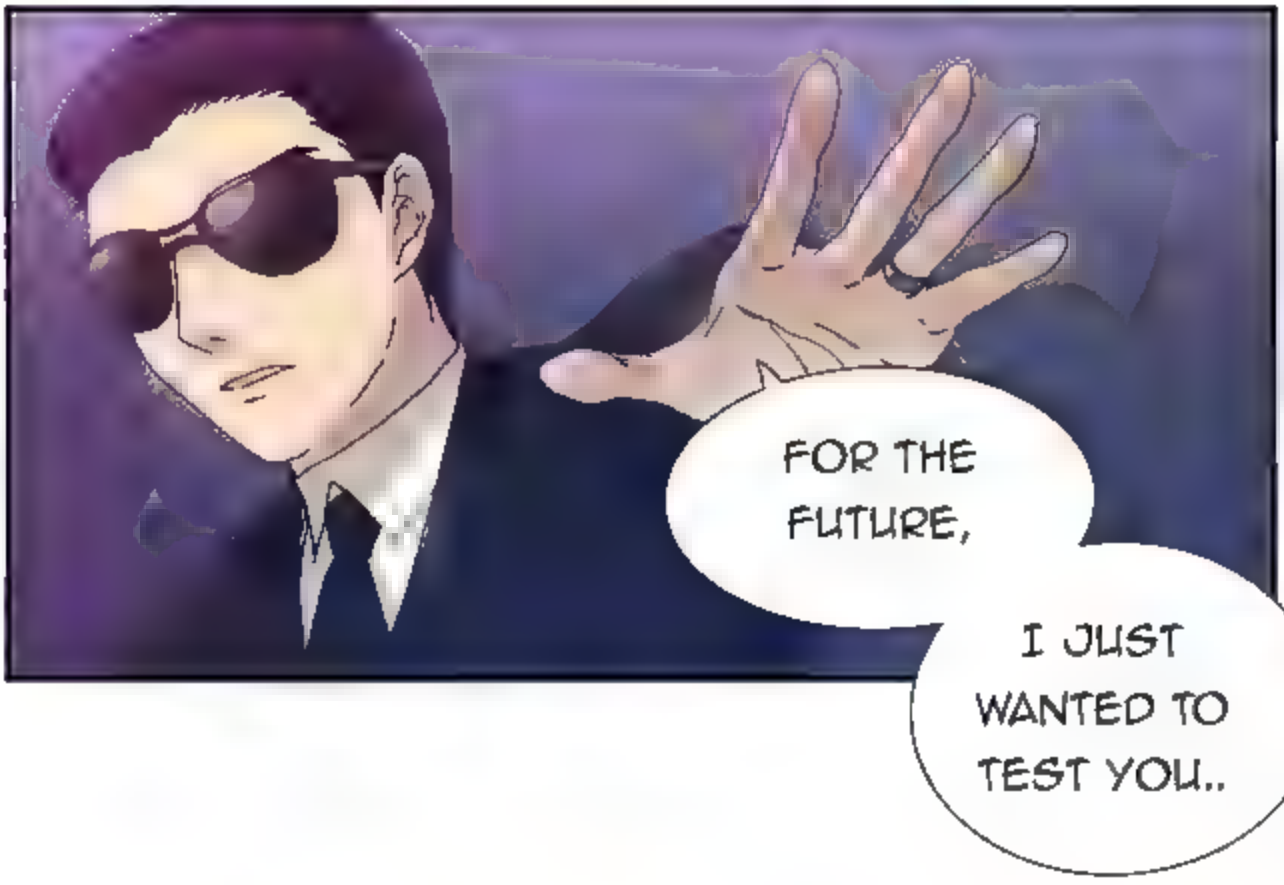
SHUT UP.

WHY DID YOU ATTACK ME?

SSH

WELL, WHAT DO YOU THINK?

IT'S SIMPLE.


FOR THE FUTURE,
I JUST WANTED TO TEST YOU..

WHAT? WHAT DO YOU MEAN...
GRAB
CONVERSATION IS OVER NOW.

GRRR

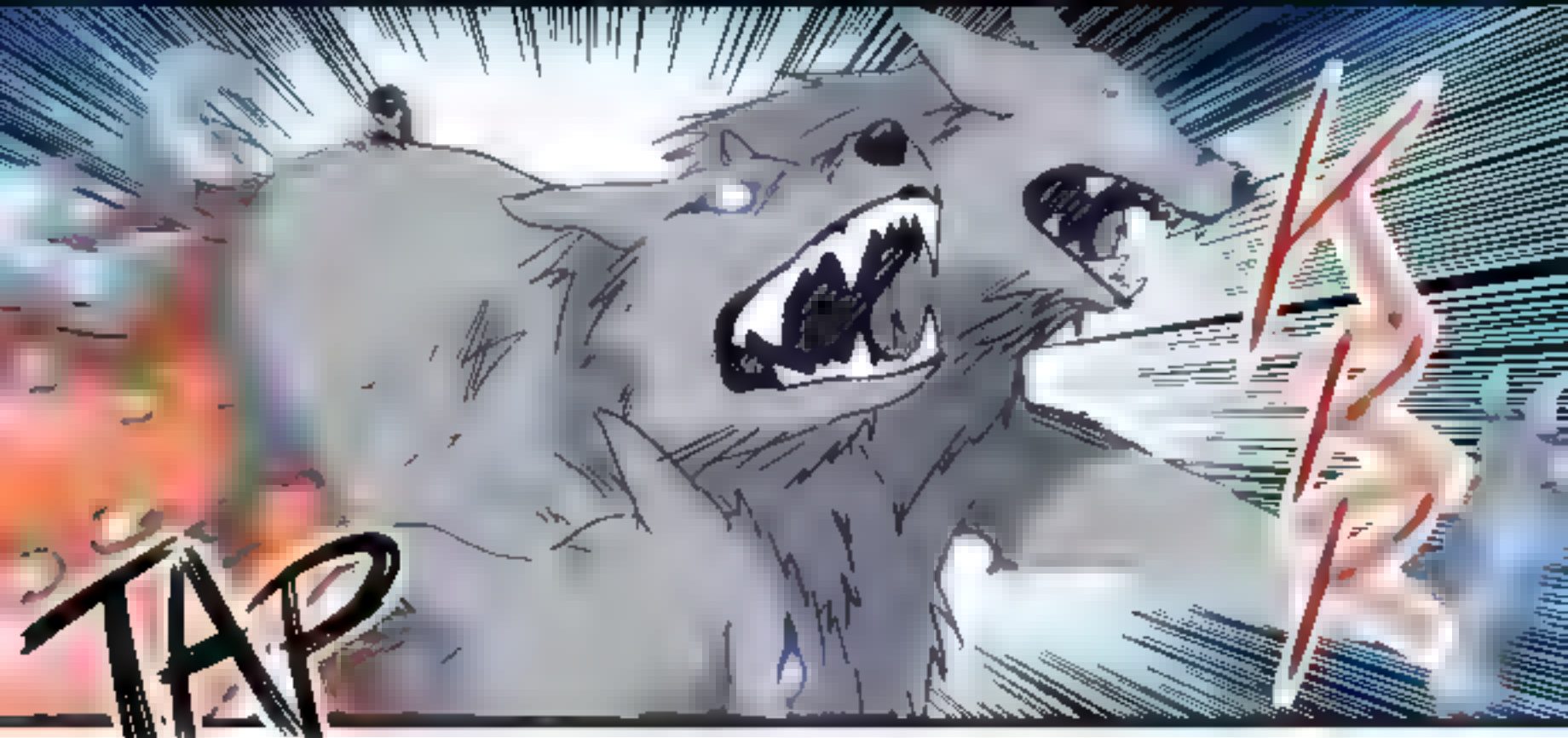
SHH

SHH

NO MORE TALKING. IT'S TIME FOR ACTION.

GO.

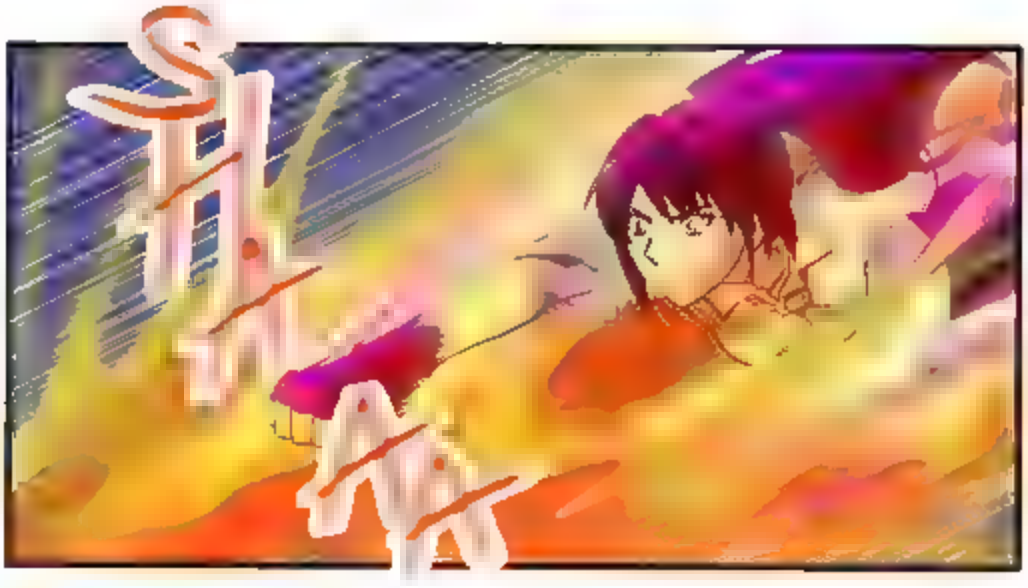
CLINK


TAP

FLARE
DAMN!
SWOOP

TAP

FLARE


SHAA

AM I DREAMING?

IN THIS SITUATION,

SSH

W... WHAT'S THIS?

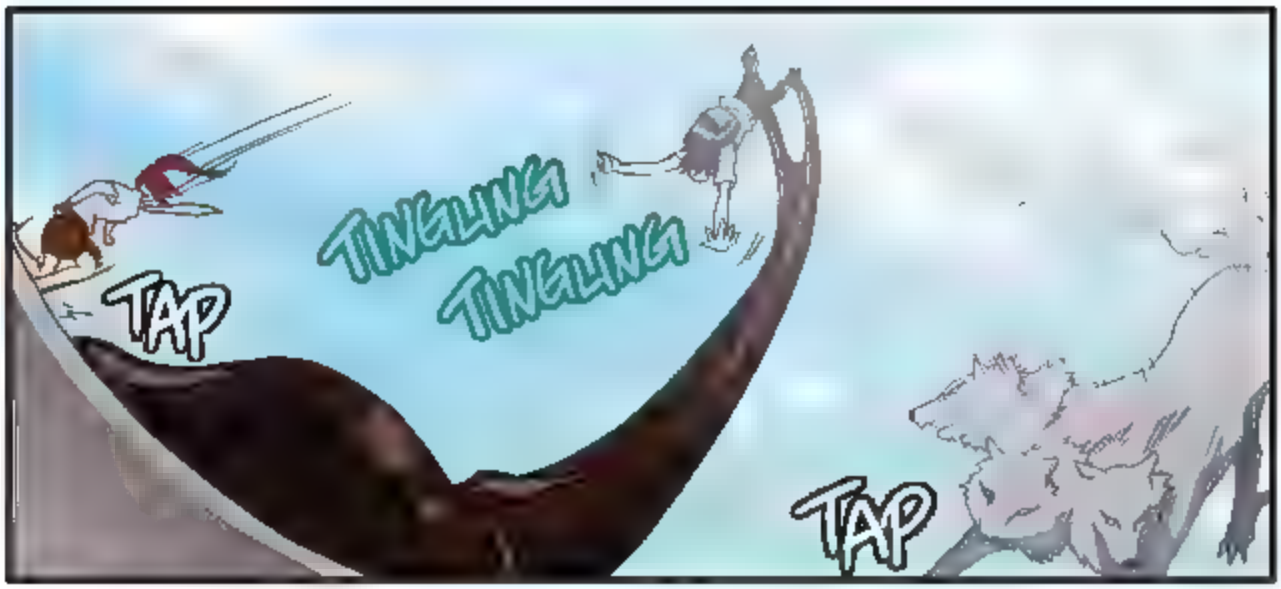
BOING

SHIFT

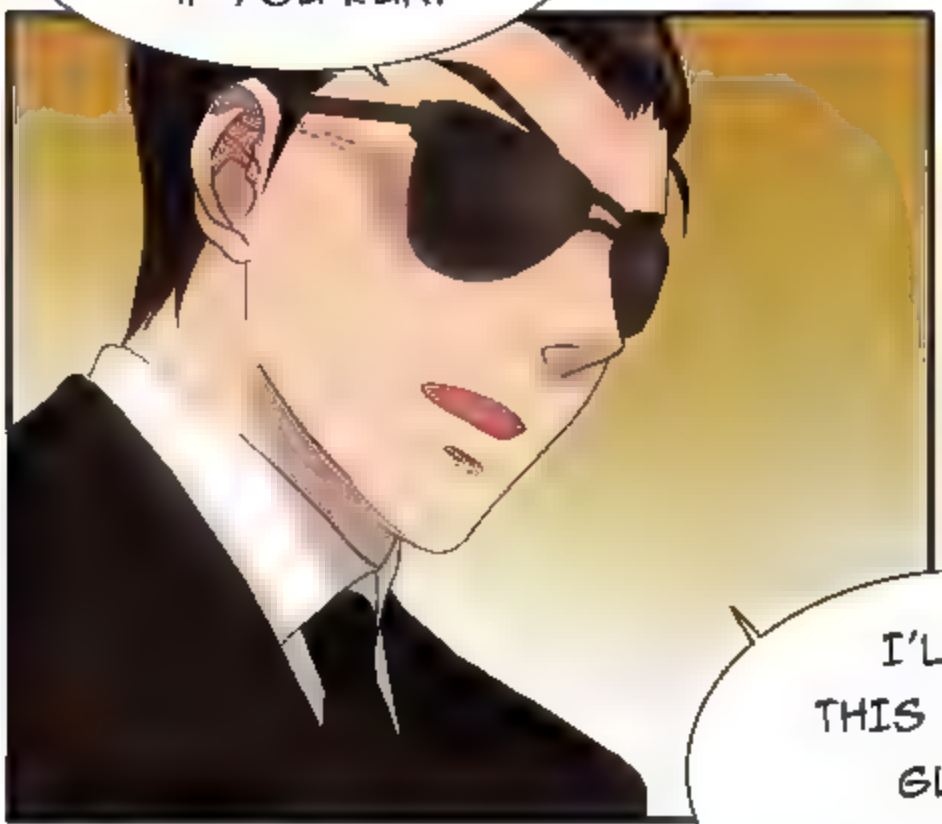
SWIRL

AAAHH!

THE GAMER



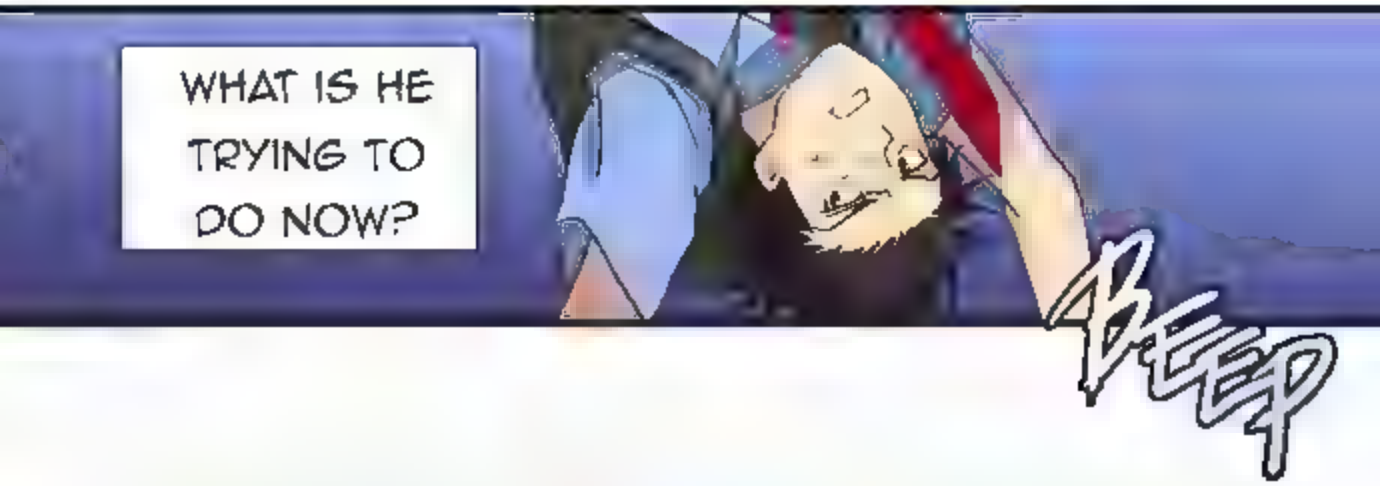
SPIRIT FLAME FIGHTER, SHIYEON KWON. IF YOU RUN.



I'LL KILL THIS UNLUCKY GUY BY TEARING HIM UP

WHAT DID YOU SAY?
WHAT A SCARY THING TO SAY WITHOUT ANY EMOTION!

FLUTTER
FLUTTER
FLUTTER
WHAT'S THAT!?



A NEW SKILL IS CREATED BY A SPECIFIC ACTION.

BEEP

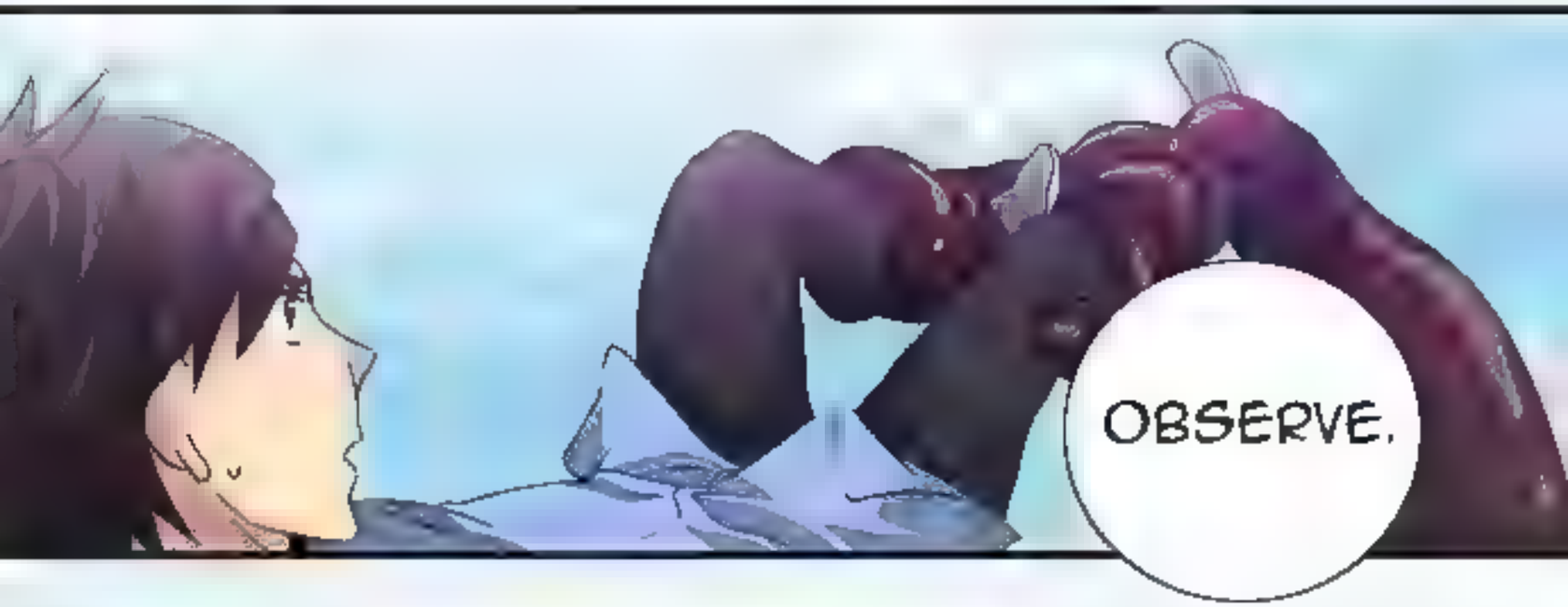
DUE TO THE CONTINUOUS OBSERVATION, A NEW SKILL [OBSERVATION] IS CREATED. IT SHOWS THE INFORMATION OF THE TARGET.

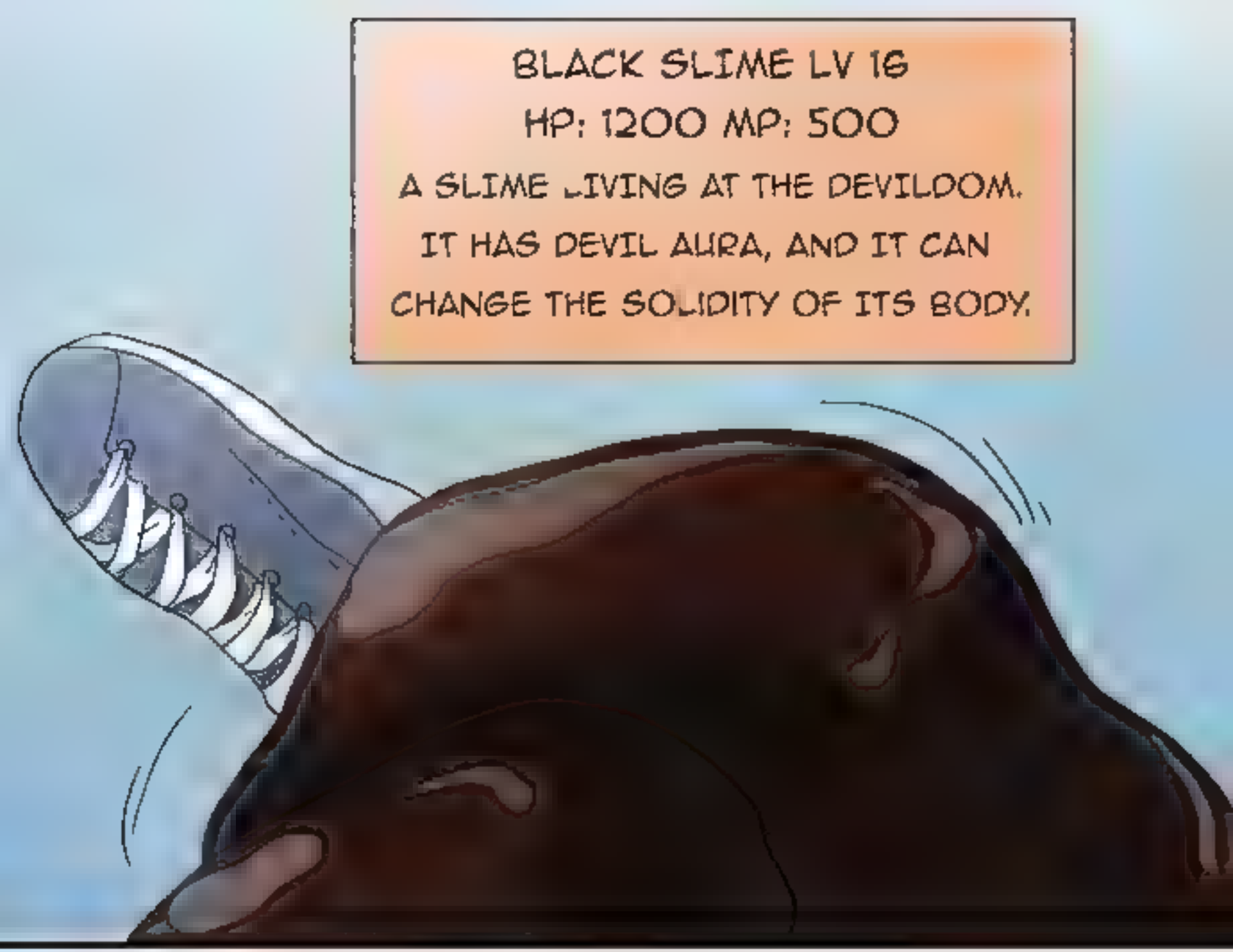
HUH?
WHAT?

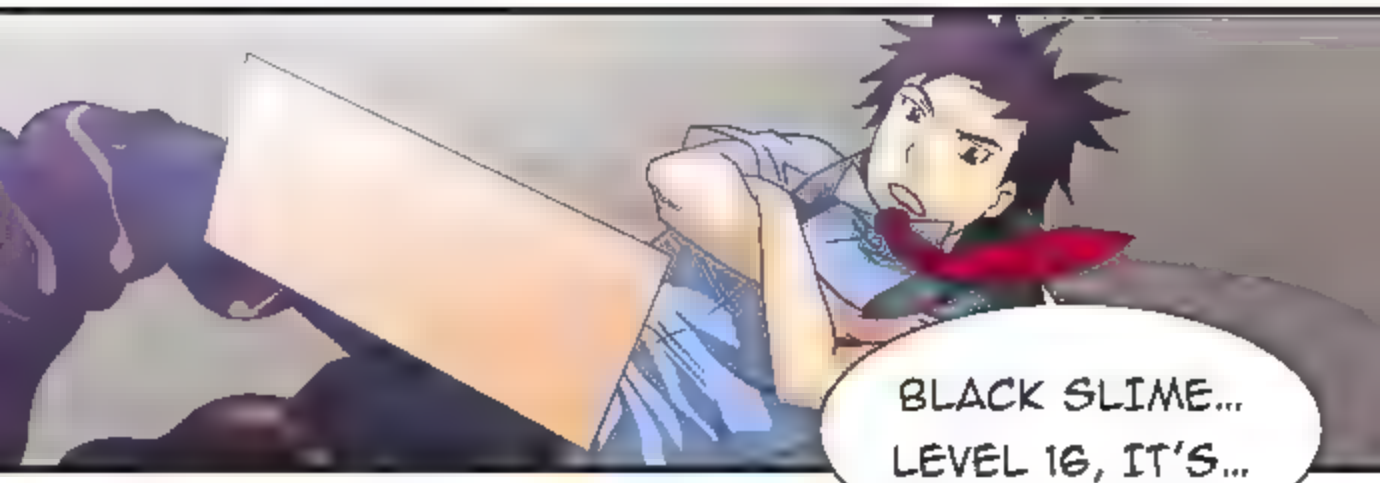
A NEW
SKILL?

WHY NOT SOMETHING MORE USEFUL...

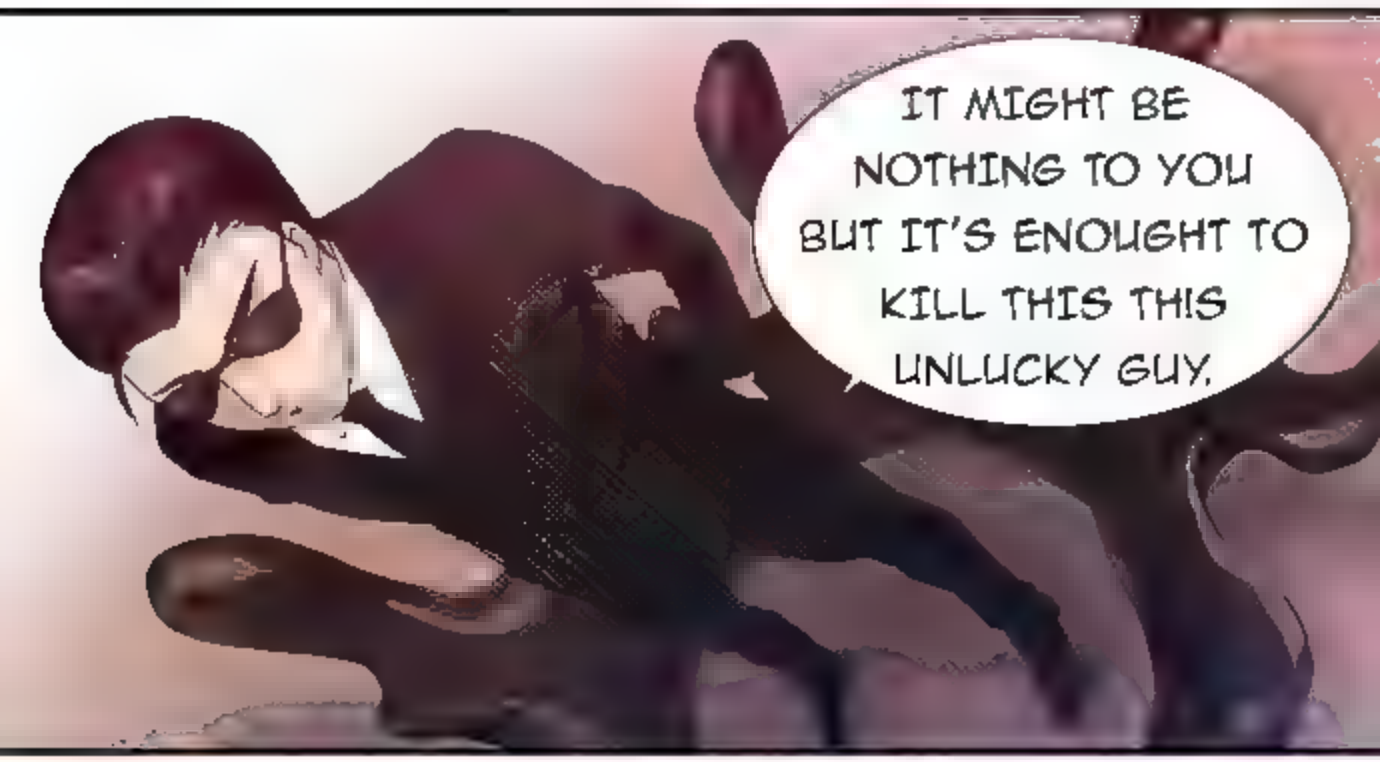
ANYWAY, I'LL TRY IT.




BLACK SLIME LV 16
HP: 1200 MP: 500
A SLIME LIVING AT THE DEVILDOM.
IT HAS DEVIL AURA, AND IT CAN
CHANGE THE SOLIDITY OF ITS BODY.



BLACK SLIME.
IT HAS DEVIL AURA.
SO, IT HAS THE ABILITY TO
STRENGTHEN ITSELF AS
STRONG AS A STEEL.



SNEAKY BASTARD. WHY DID YOU GET THAT ORDINARY MAN INVOLVED?

GNASH

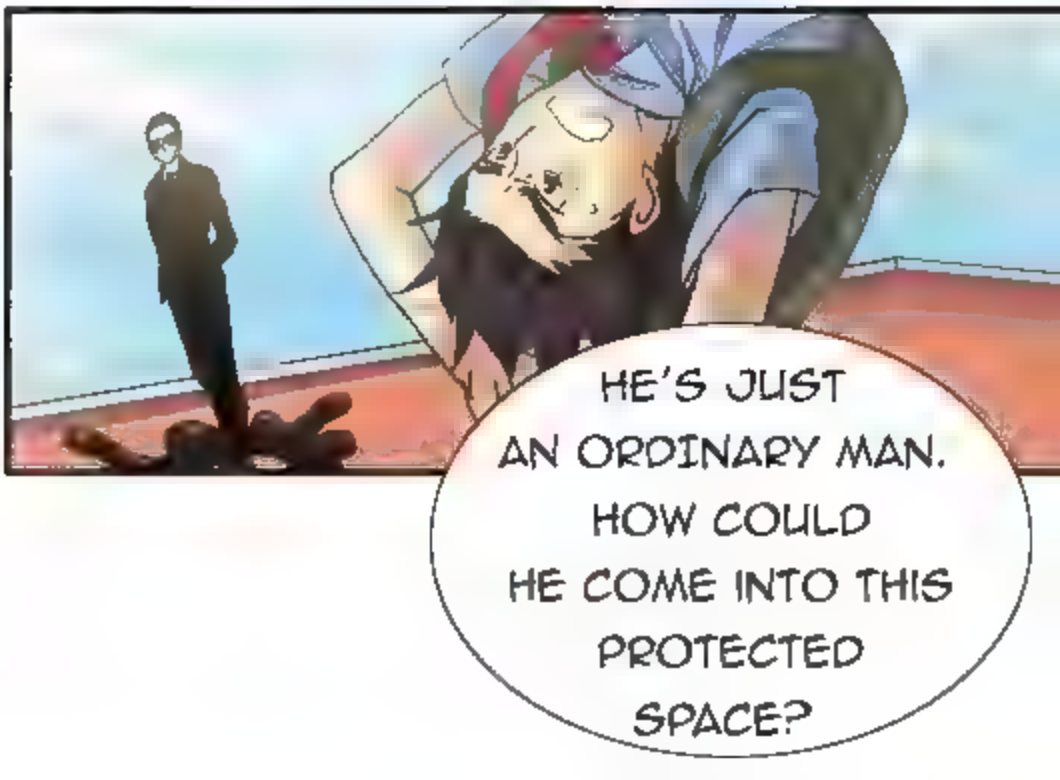
DON'T WORRY. IF YOU FIGHT ME WITH FULL POWER,

I WON'T HURT THIS GUY.

AND THIS GUY GOT IN HERE ON HIS OWN.

YOU'RE LYING.

WHY WOULD I?
BUT, IT IS WEIRD.


HE'S JUST AN ORDINARY MAN. HOW COULD HE COME INTO THIS PROTECTED SPACE?

TURN

WHO CARES, LET'S FIGHT.
IF YOU'RE BELOW MY EXPECTATION, YOU'LL ALSO DIE HERE.

FLUTTER

TAP
FOOM
FLARE

SHAAA

TAP

HOP

Stop
P
WP

STEP
TAP
POW

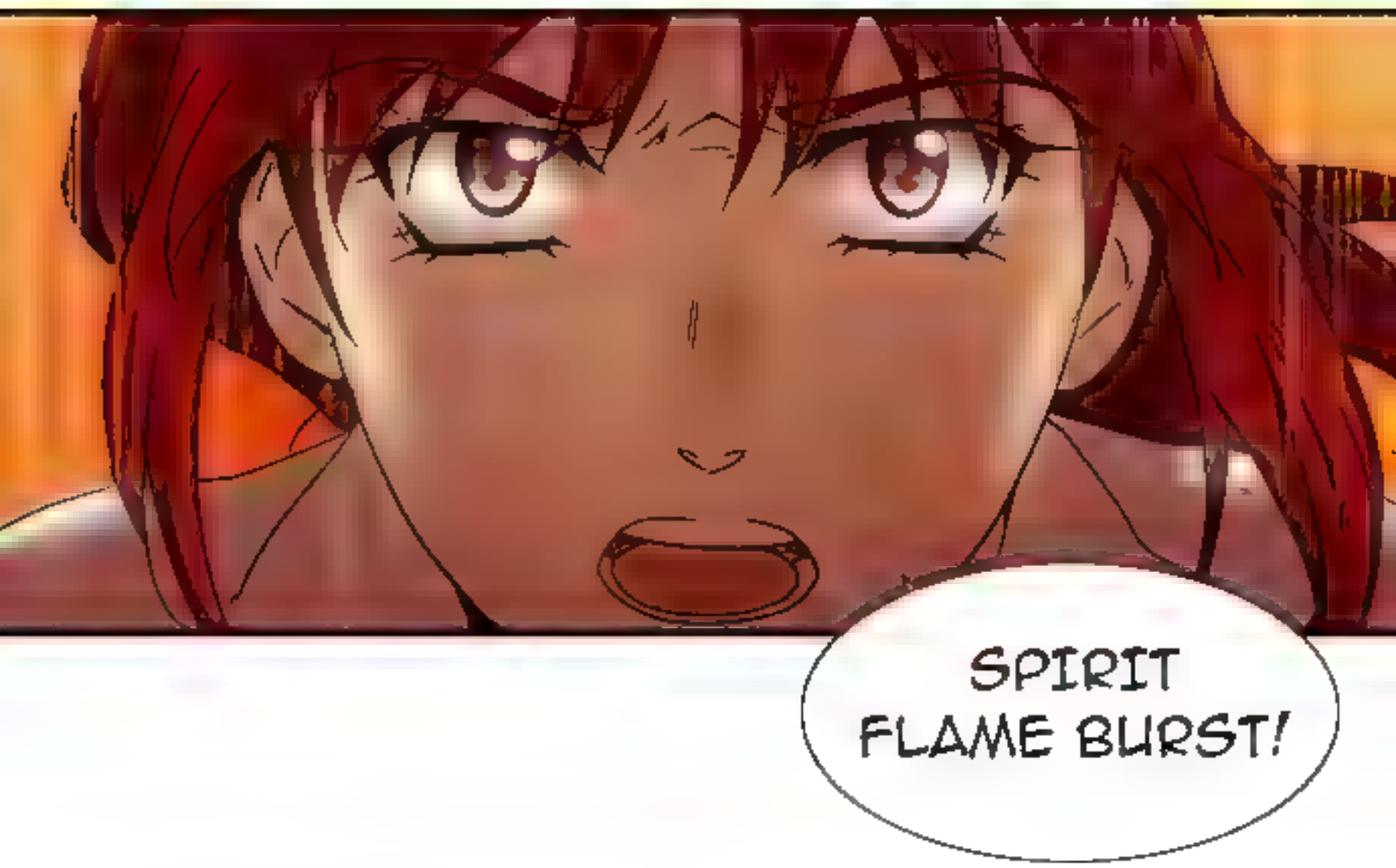
RISING DRAGON PUNCH!?

SHHHH

PA—T

SHAAAA

HMPH
IT'S DISTURBING.
SNAP
SPIRIT FLAME MARTIAL ARTS 1ST SKILL



THE GAMER

STORY BY SANGYOUNG SEONG

ILLUST BY SANG-A

LINE Webtoon

SN
AP
SPIRIT FLAME
MARTIAL ARTS
1ST SKILL

THE GAMER

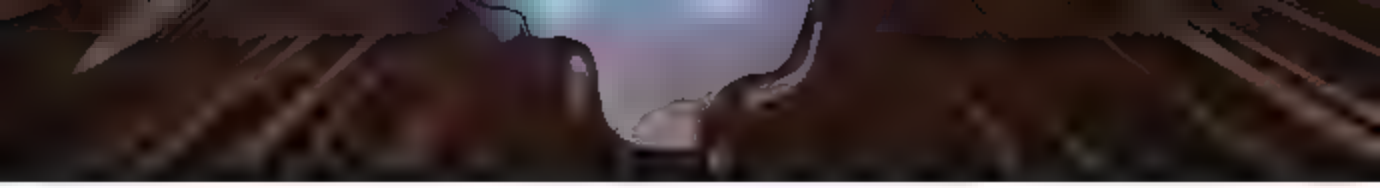
STORY BY SANGYOUNG SEONG

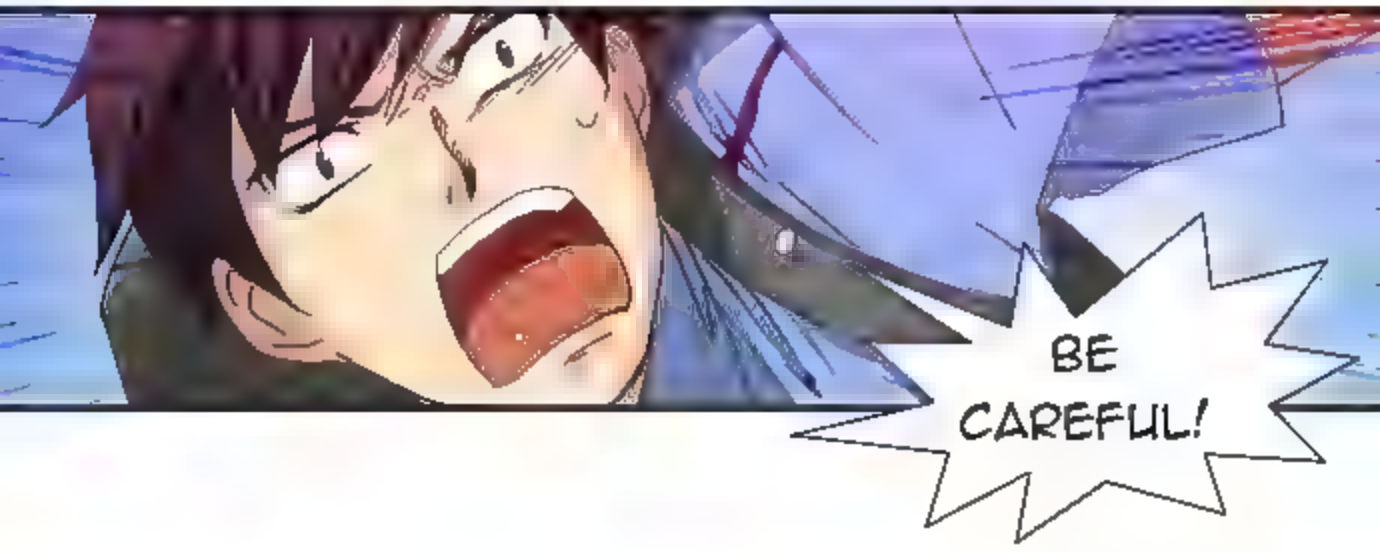
ILLUST BY SANG-A

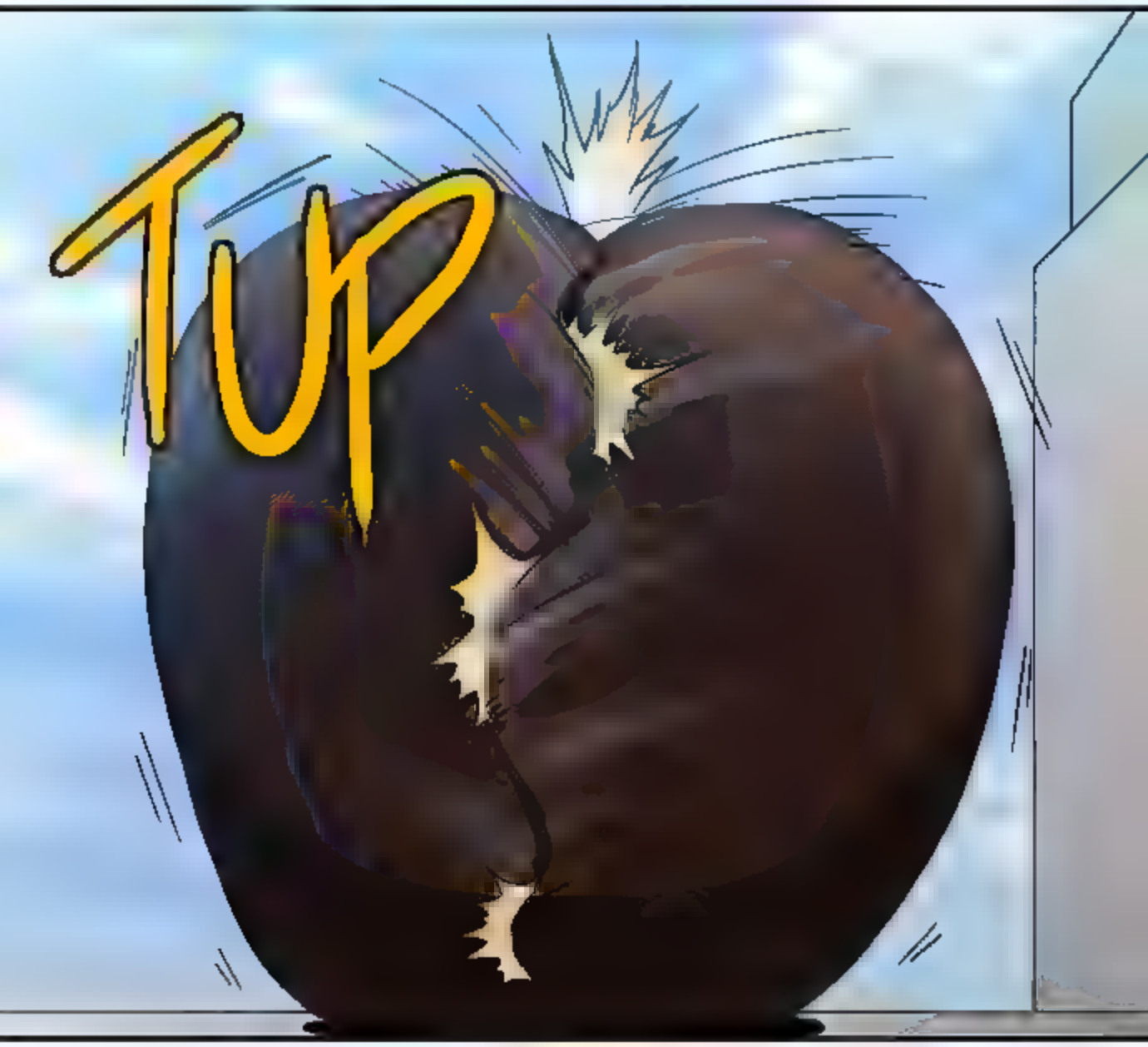
FLARE

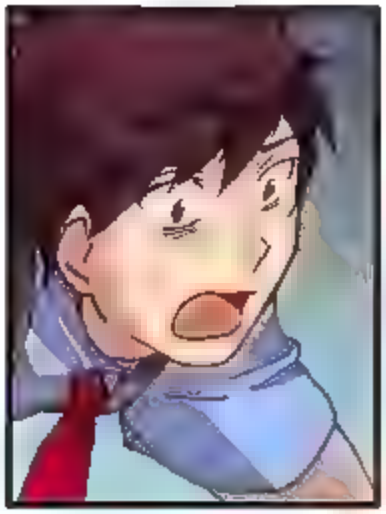
BURST

SHAAA



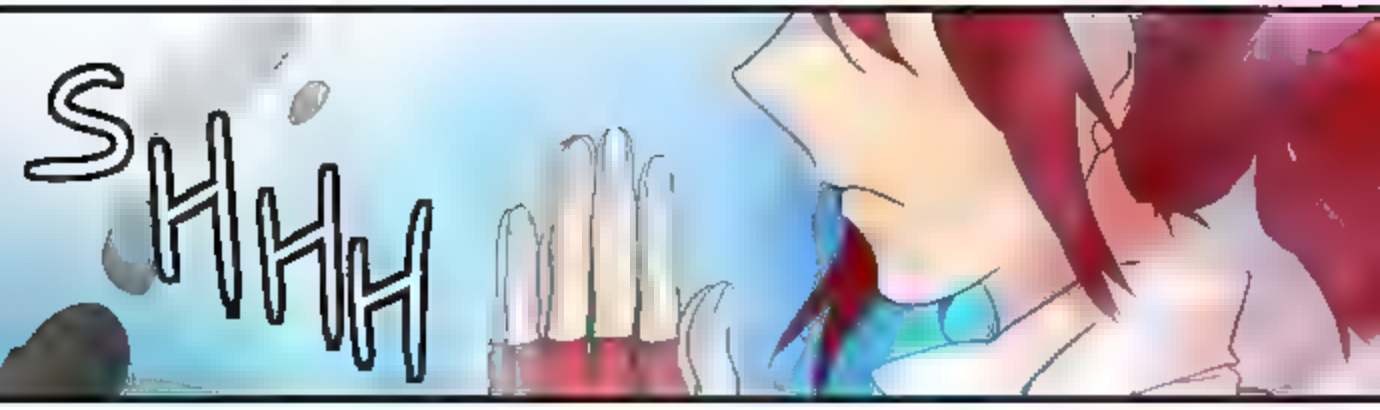

BE CAREFUL!

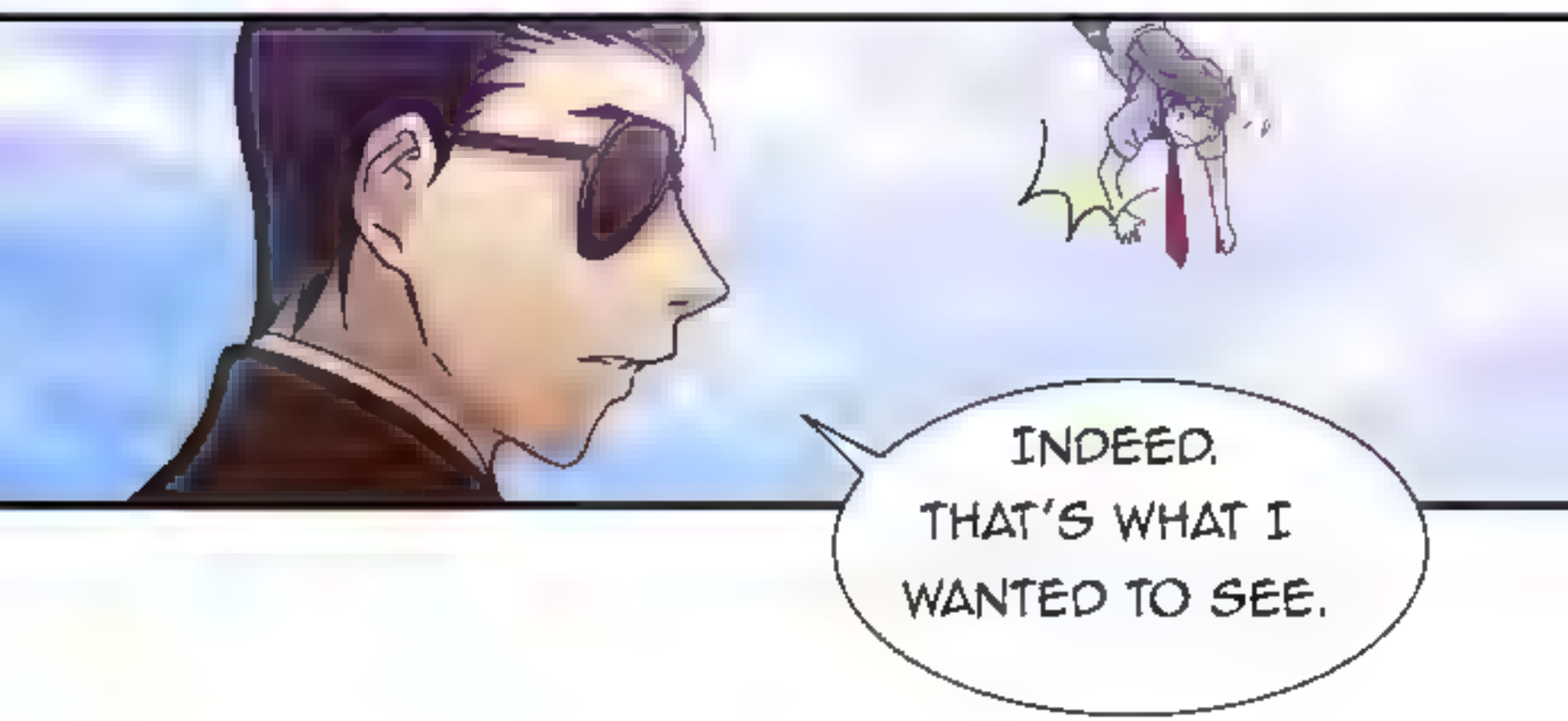

TUP



BUBBLE
BUBBLE

BOOM


SHHH


INDEED.
THAT'S WHAT I
WANTED TO SEE.

NOW, LET'S SEE ITS LIMIT.

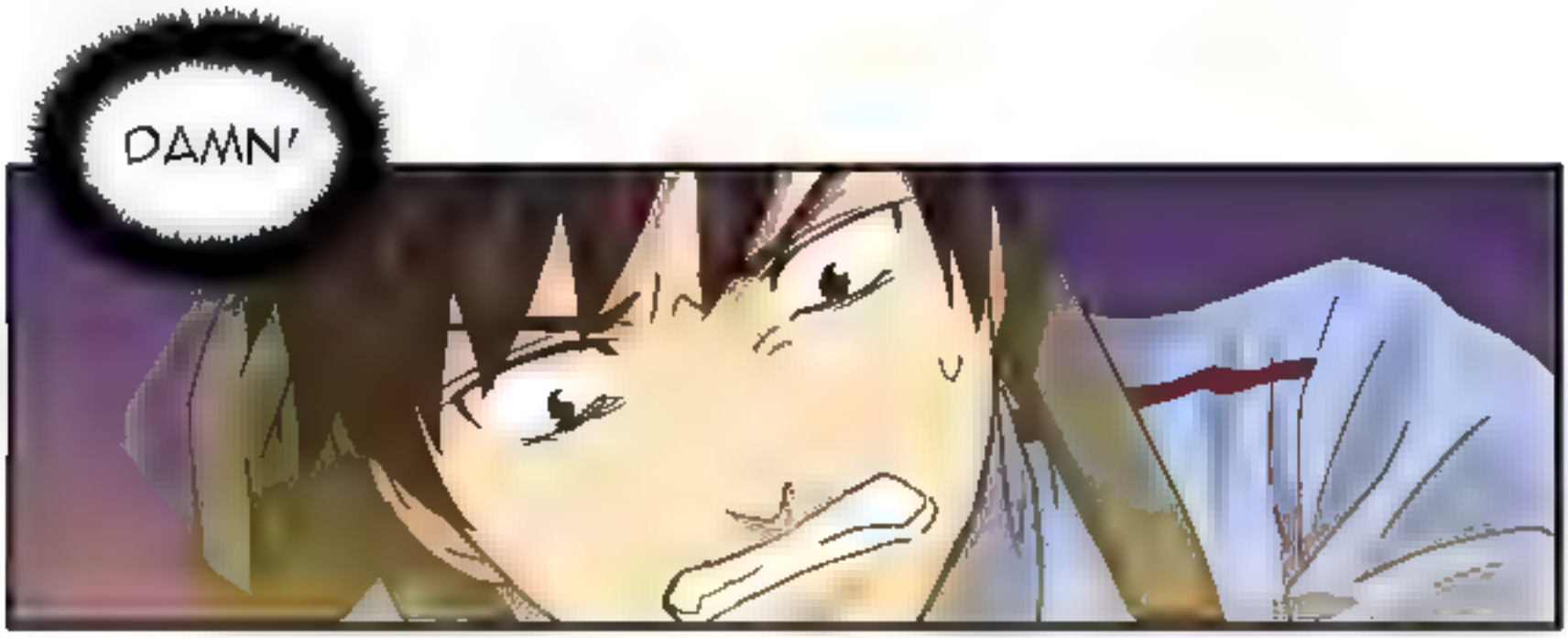
SHH

CLANG

CLANG

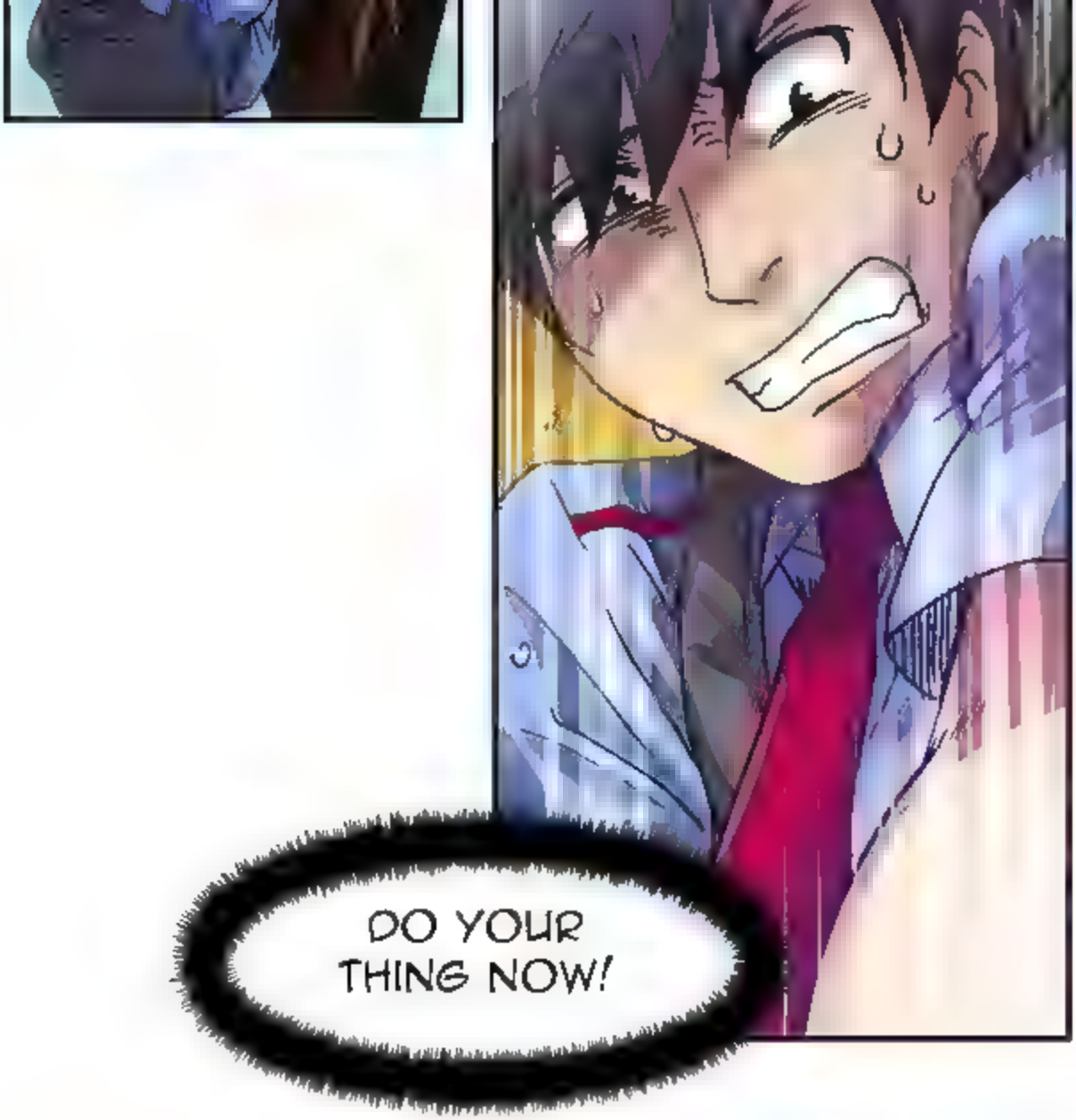
PAST

THAT BLACK SUMMONER IS ABOUT TO SUMMON SOMETHING ELSE
SWIP
I HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE!
GRAB
GRAB
TINGLE TINGLE
IT'S LIKE A RUBBER! SO BOUNCY!



IN ORDER TO RUN AWAY, I NEED TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS SLIME!

THE 5 POINTS I PUT INTO MY STRENGTH!



BUT NOTHING HAPPENED.

BEEP

A NEW SKILL IS CREATED WITH A SPECIFIC ACTION.

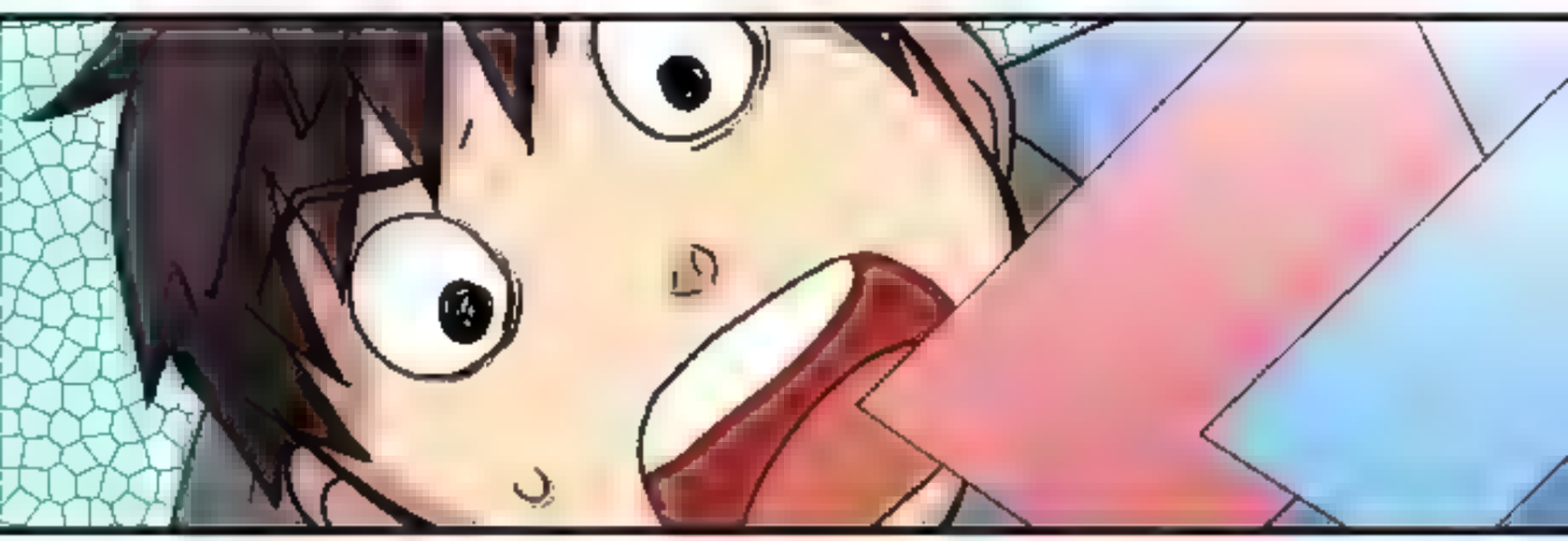
BEEP

A NEW SKILL [TEAR OFF] IS CREATED WHICH USES EXCESSIVE STRENGTH.

BEEP

[TEAR OFF (ACTIVE) LV1 EXP: 0.0%]

THE ACTION TO TEAR SOMETHING
OR SOMEONE OFF WITH A STRONG GRIP.
30% INCREASE OF POWER
WHEN TEARING SOMETHING OFF.



WEIRD THING KEEP HAPPENING

SPLAT

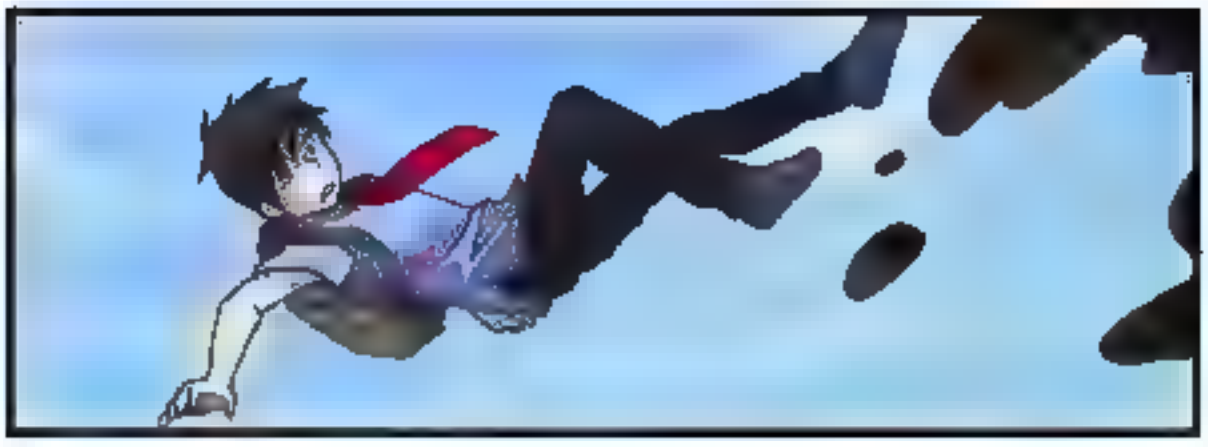
ALRIGHT, TEAR OFF!

PA

PLOOSH

SPLIT

NICE!



BY THE WAY, WASN'T I IN THE AIR!?

SWOOSH

ARGH!?

THUD

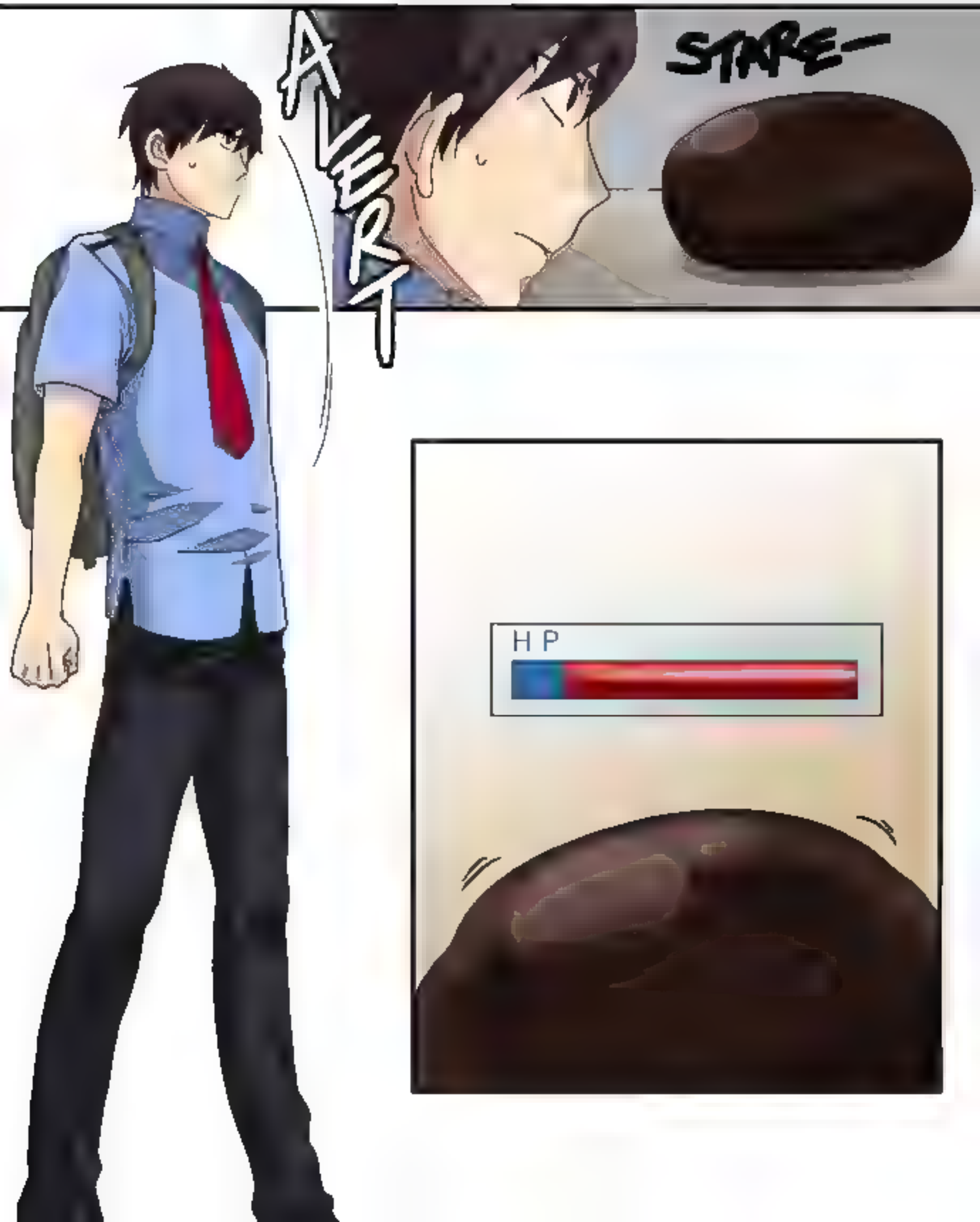
UGH!

AWW.
IT REALLY
HURTS, BUT...
I'M NOT
HURT!
AM I SUPER
LUCKY?
TAP
AAHH!?

CRACK

RRR

WIGGLE


ALERT
STARE—
HP

I GOT OUT.
BUT WHAT NOW?

THE GAMER

TREMBLE
TREMBLE
I UNDERSTOOD ONE THING SEEING THE ROAD WITH THE HOLE.

ONE MISTAKE, I MIGHT DIE HERE.

PFFT SHH

HUSTLE

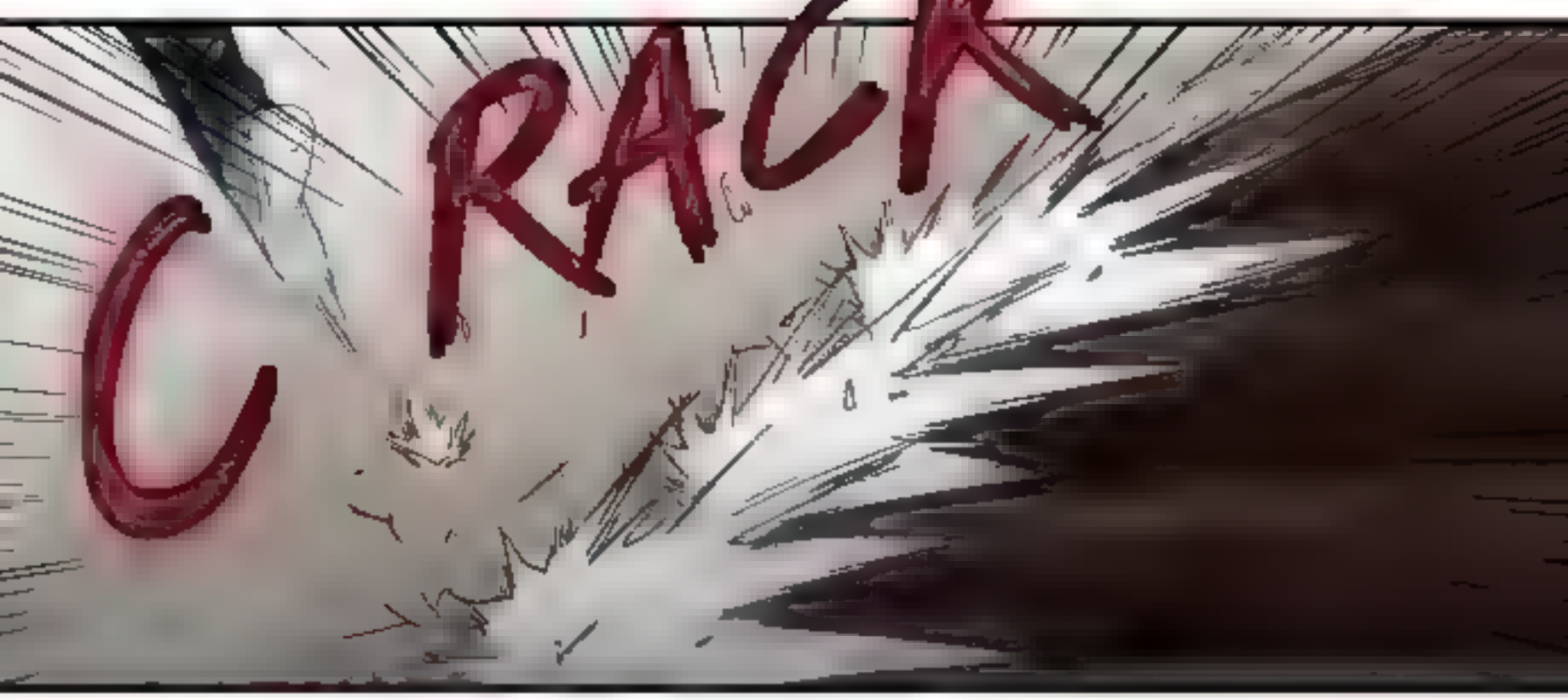
WIGGLE

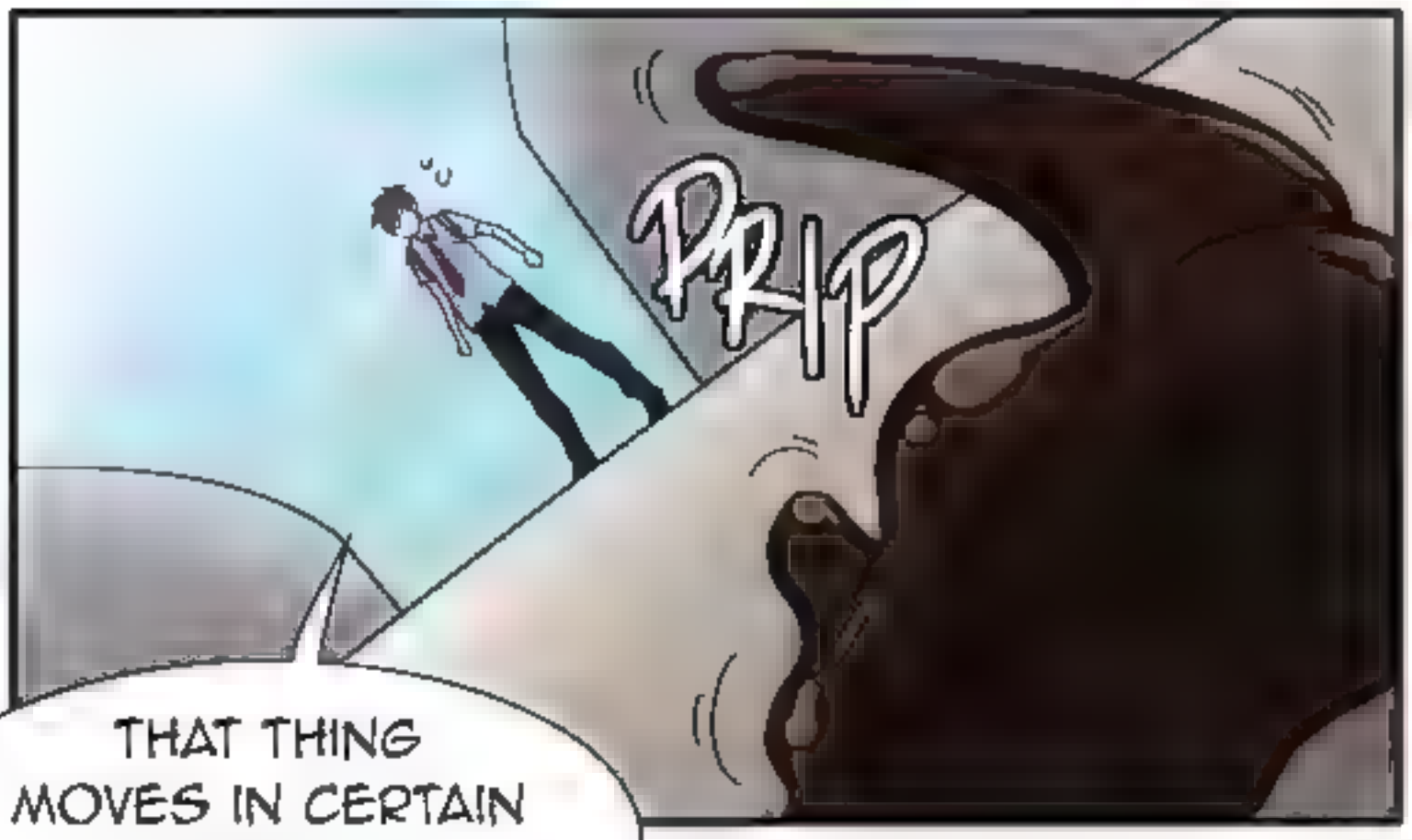
WIGGLE

SWOOSH

DAMN.
TURN

SWOOSH





THAT THING MOVES IN CERTAIN ORDER OF PATTERNS...

I MIGHT HAVE A CHANCE.

GRIN

BEEP

THE LEVEL OF OBSERVATION INCREASED.

IS THIS BECAUSE I NOTICED THE PATTERN OF THE SLIME? OBSERVATION LEVEL INCREASED!

LET'S TRY IT.

BLACK SLIME LV 16
HP: 1200(1100) MP: 500
A SLIME LIVING AT THE DEVILDOM.
IT HAS DEVIL AURA, AND IT CAN
CHANGE THE STRENGTH OF ITS BODY.
MOVING SPEED IS SLOWER THAN HUMAN
RUNNING, BUT WHEN YOU GET CLOSE
IT SUDDEN ATTACKS WITH HIGHT SPEED.

BLACK SLIME LV 16
HP: 1200(1100) MP: 500

THERE'S A NEW INFO! DECREASE OF HP BY 100 POINTS.

MY TEAR OFF HAS EFFECT TO DECREASE 100 POINTS OF HP?

I GOT IT NOW

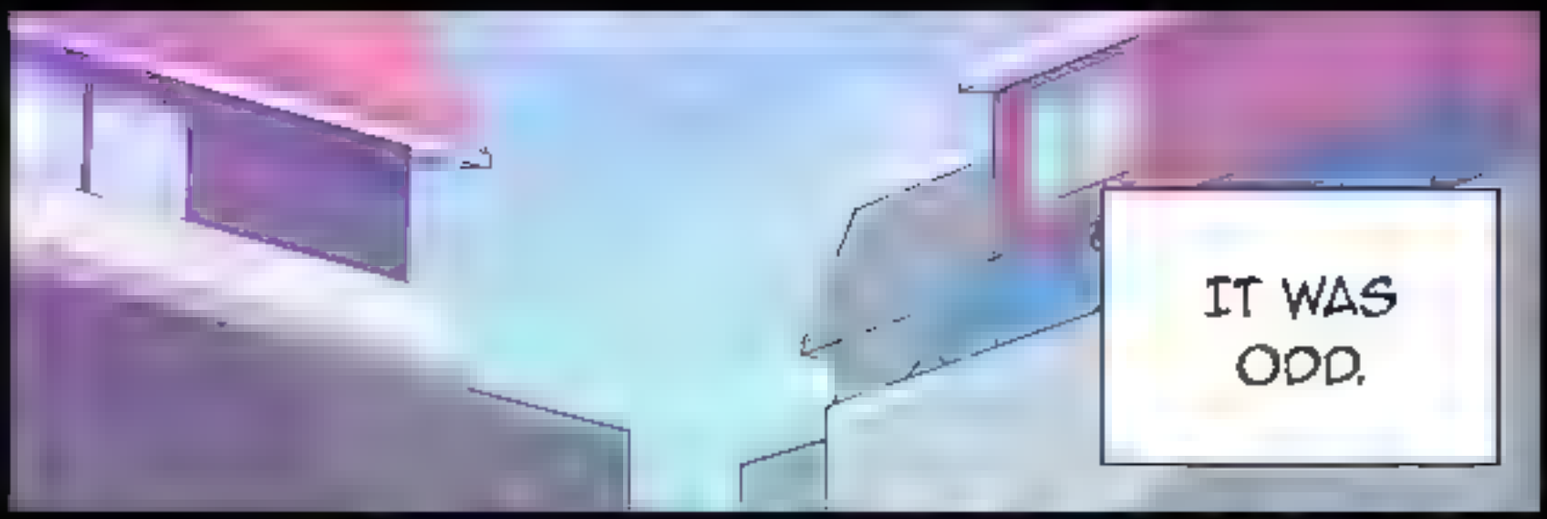
WHAT'S IMPORTANT IS, THAT I CAN KILL HIM WITH 11 MORE SUCCESSFUL ATTACKS.

UM, I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT I'M PRETTY CALM NOW!

ACTUALLY THE BEST THING IS TO RUN AWAY, BUT THE THING IS I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHERE I AM.

ACCORDING TO THAT SUNGLASSES, WE'RE IN THE 'PROTECTED SPACE'.

BUT, THERE MUST BE A WAY TO GET OUT OF HERE.


IT WAS ODD.

HAVING NO PEOPLE AROUND, WHEN THEY ARE FIGHTING SO LOUDLY.

IT MUST HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THIS SPACE.

THEN I WON'T BE ABLE TO GET OUT OF HERE IN AN ORDINARY WAY.

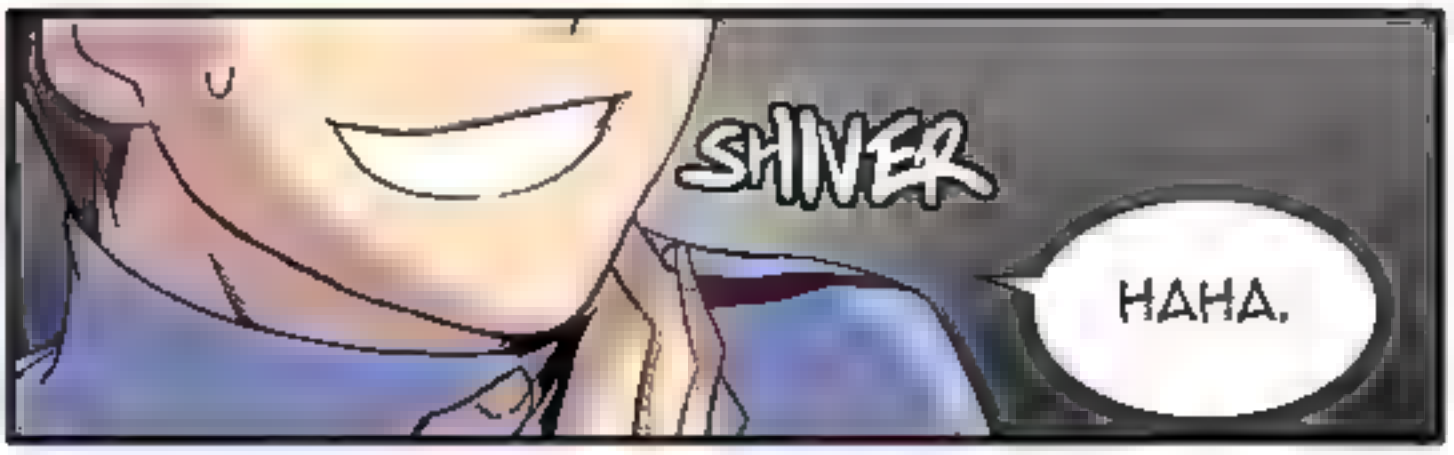
IT FEELS WEIRD THAT I'M BEING VERY LOGICAL NOW, BUT THAT DOESN'T MATTER.

I NEED TO SURVIVE FIRST!

GLARE

BUT, I WILL DIE OF 1 HIT. WHILE I NEED TO HIT HIM 11 TIMES.

BY ONE MISTAKE, DEATH IS WHAT AWAITS ME.



BUT,
I'VE GOT
NO CHOICE!

THEN...

SWO

OSH

TAP

CRACK

DRIP
I SEE.
AFTER AN ATTACK, IT NEEDS A TIME FOR THE NEXT ATTACK.
WIGGLE
WIGGLE
SHH
BUT IT'S NOT SURE YET. LET'S TRY AGAIN.

WWUVE

SWOOSH

SWOOP
SHAAA

CRACK

DRIP

GOTCHA!

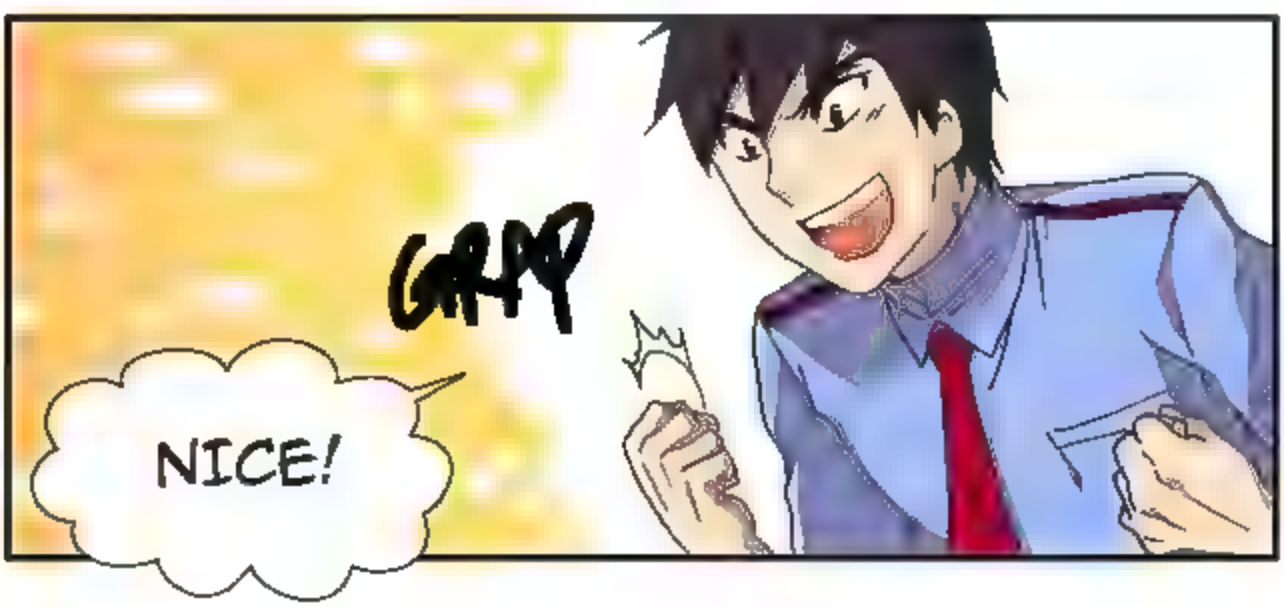
TEAR OFF!

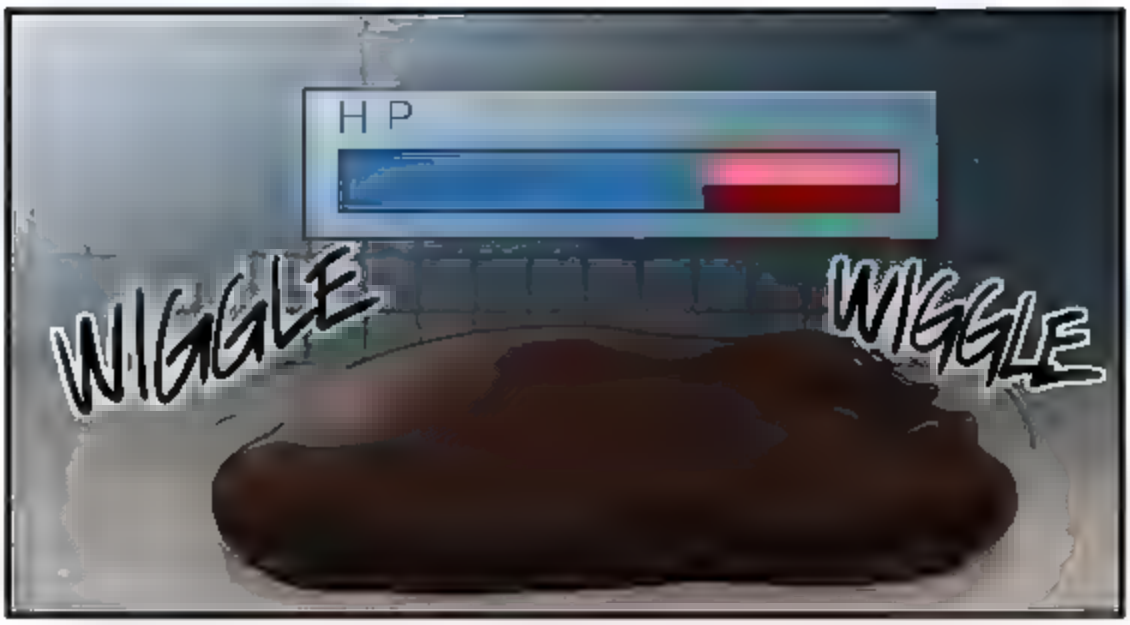
GRAB

PHAT
GRAB
CRITICAL!

CRA
CK

TREMBLE
TREMBLE
SWOOP
TAP


GRIP
NICE!


HP
WIGGLE
WIGGLE

OK,
YOU ARE
MINE NOW!

THE GAMER

STORY BY SANGYOUNG SEONG
ILLUST BY SANG-A

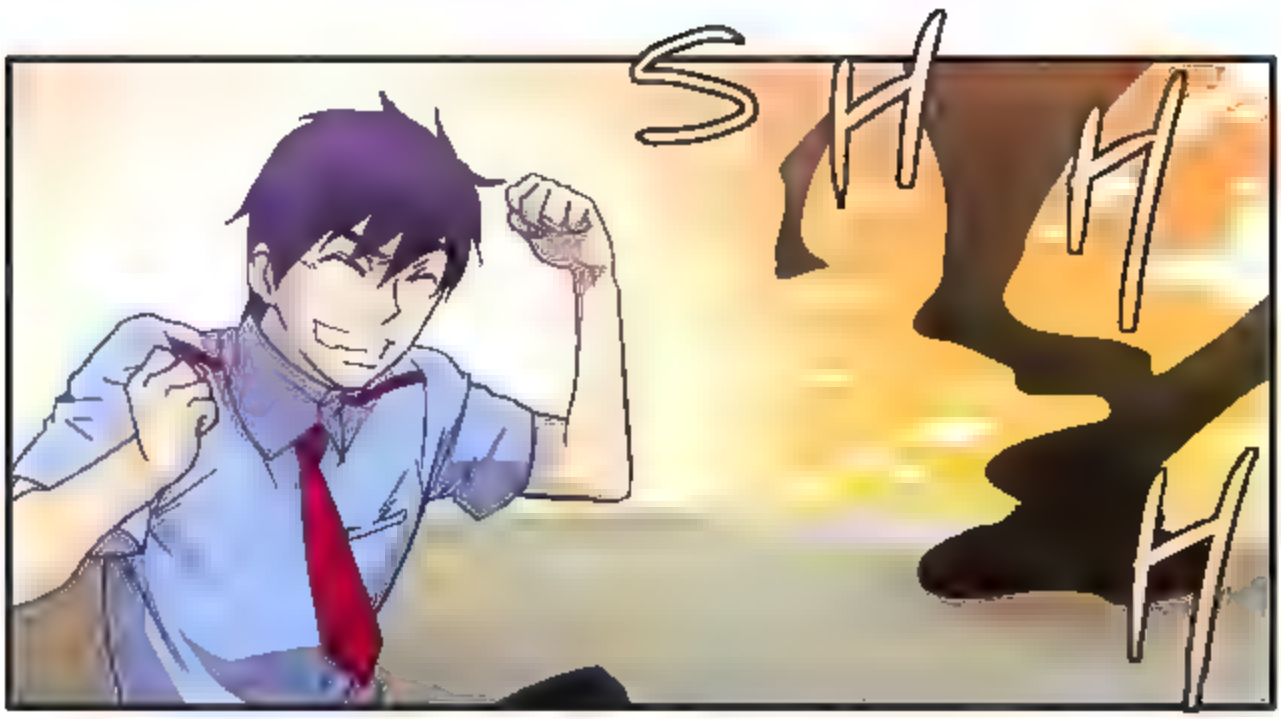
LINE Webtoon

THE GAMER

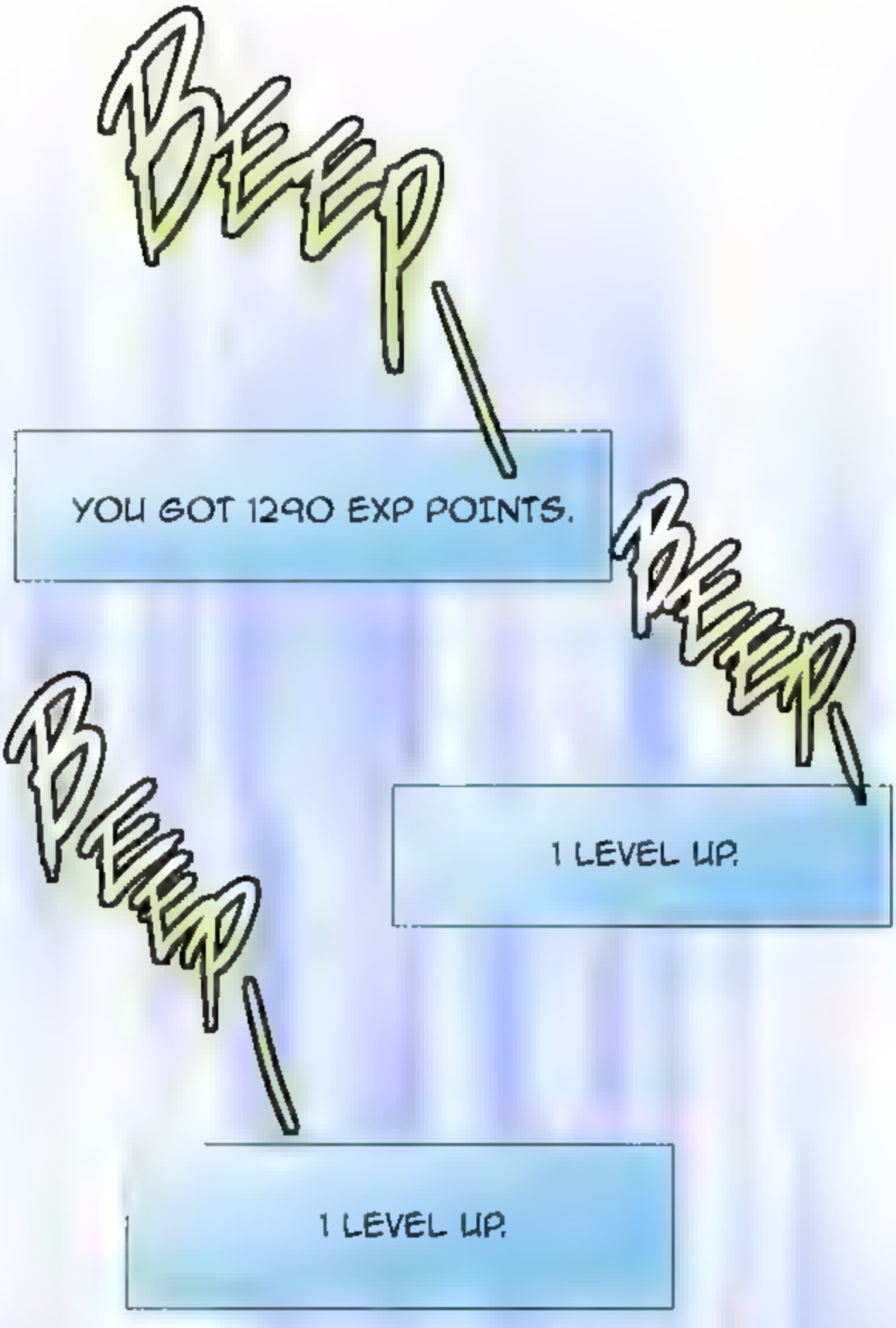
STORY BY SANGYOUNG SEONG
ILLUST BY SANG-A

GRAB

TEAR OFF!
TEAR OFF



I GOT HIM!
I GOT HIM!


BEEP
YOU GOT 1290 EXP POINTS.
BEEP
1 LEVEL UP.
BEEP
1 LEVEL UP.

THE POINTS FOR KILLING SLIME ARE AMAZING.

WHAT A LEVEL UP WITH
A JUST ONE MONSTER!
I DID SO MANY QUESTS BEFORE
BUT IT WAS VERY SLOW
LEVEL UP!!

SO HUNTING IS
MUCH BETTER THAN
SMALL QUESTS?

ANYWAY, LEVEL UP AND SURVIVAL!

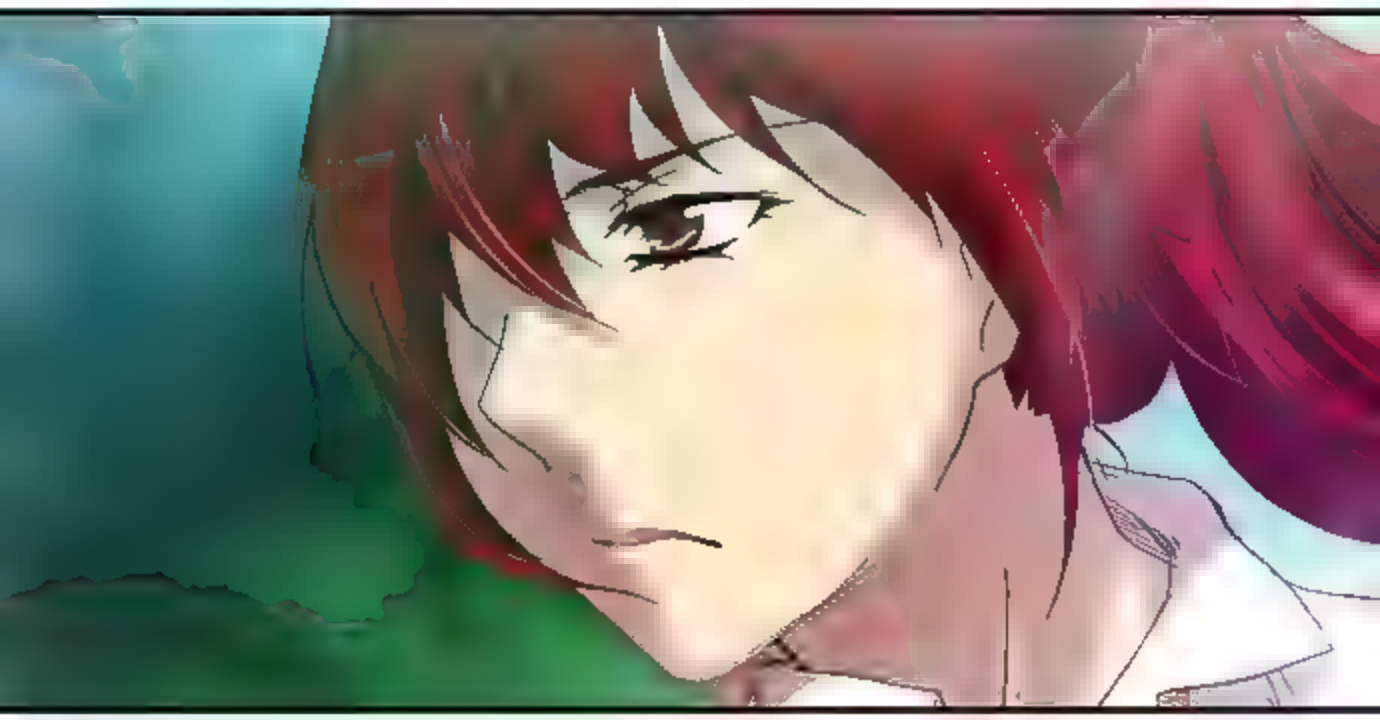
YAY

NICE!
VERY NICE!

KA-BOOM

HUH!?

TURN



GULP
POWERFUL! WOULD I BE LIKE THAT WHEN I REACH LEVEL 30S?
AND WHERE'S THAT SUNGLASS?

TURN

TURN

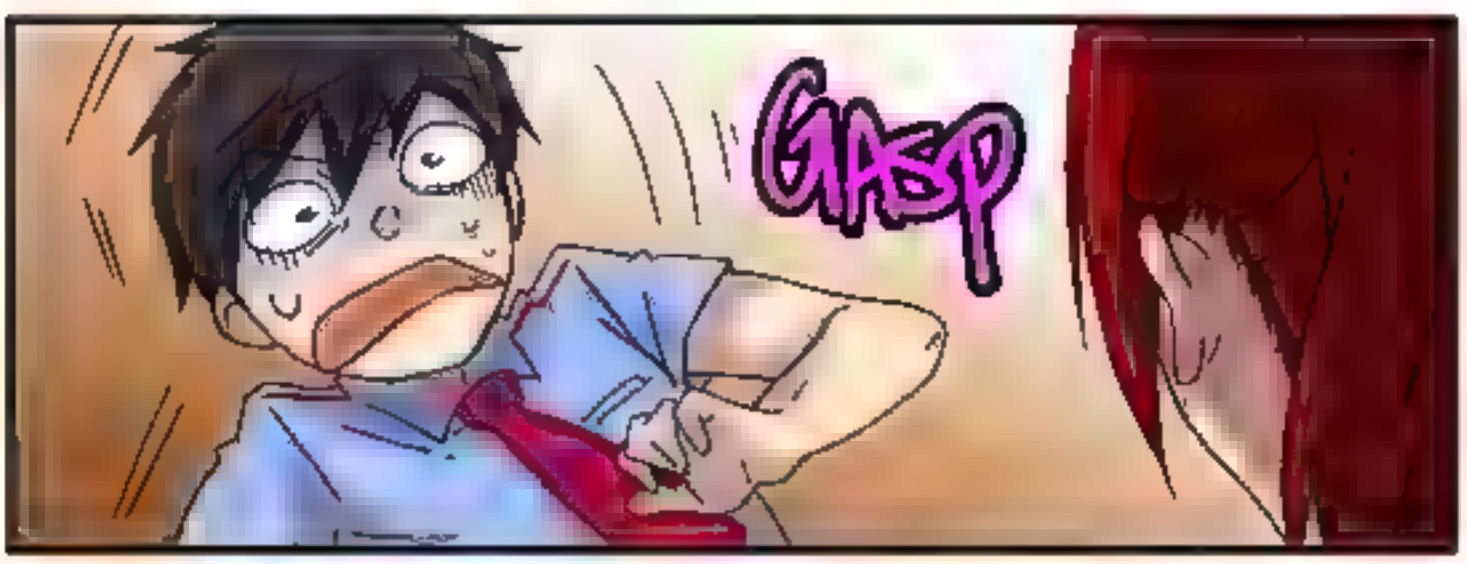
GONE.

<BLACK SUMMONER>
LV 46 SEONGON H.

IT'S WEIRD.
THE SUNGLASS'S
LEVEL WAS
HIGHER.

WHY DID HE
DISAPPEAR?

TURN


GASP

W, WHAT? SINCE WHEN WAS SHE HERE?
FLIP
FLIP

THUMP

WAVER
WAVER

THUMP
THUMP

ARGH ARGH
WAVER

THUMP
THUMP

W,WHAT?
WHY IS SHE
COMING
CLOSER?

WHAT
ARE YOU?

WHAT?

THAT THING IS NOT SOMETHING AN ORDINARY MAN CAN KILL.
HOW DID YOU KILL THAT?

IT'S HARD TO EXPLAIN!

[THE GAMER]
[JIHAN H.]

I HAVE POWER OF CHARACTERS IN A GAME, AND THAT'S HOW I WON.

WOULD YOU BELIEVE ME IF I SAY THIS? I WON'T.

POWER LIKE A GAME CHARACTER? IT'S A NONSENSE.

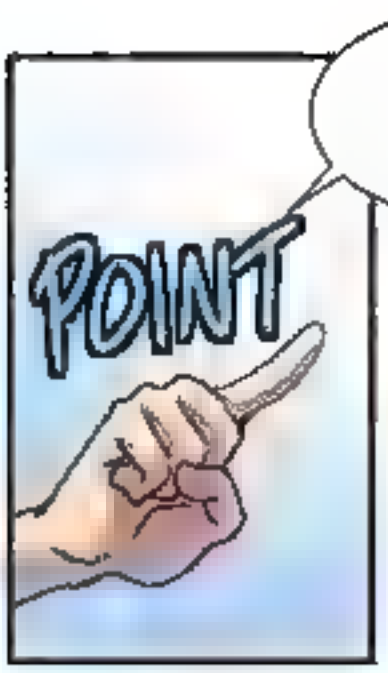
ACTUALLY,
LOOKING AT THAT
SUNGLASSES DOING
SUMMON MAGIC,

AND GIRL
BURSTING FLAMES
FROM HER
HAND,

IT WON'T SOUND
THAT WEIRD TO HAVE
SOMEONE LIKE ME,

BUT YOU KNOW...
THERE IS SOMETHING CALLED,
THE BASIC LOGIC!

BY THE WAY,
I'M VERY CALM
FOR THIS SITUATION?
WHY?


HEY.
POINT

WHAT KIND OF
QUESTION IS THAT
FOR A PERSON
WHO JUST SURVIVED
FROM DEATH?
YOU SHOULD
OF ASKED
IF I'M OK?

UM.

I ALSO HAVE TONS OF QUESTIONS.
WHY DON'T WE TAKE TURNS TO ASK QUESTIONS?
WOW, I THINK I'M GREAT. LOOK HOW SMART I DEAL WITH THINGS!

ALRIGHT.

MY NAME IS JIHAN HAN, AGE 18, A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT WITH A BIT SPECIAL POWER.
WOULD THIS BE ENOUGH?

YOU LOOK QUITE STUPID... BUT YOU HAVE A BIT SPECIAL POWER?

DUH

!!

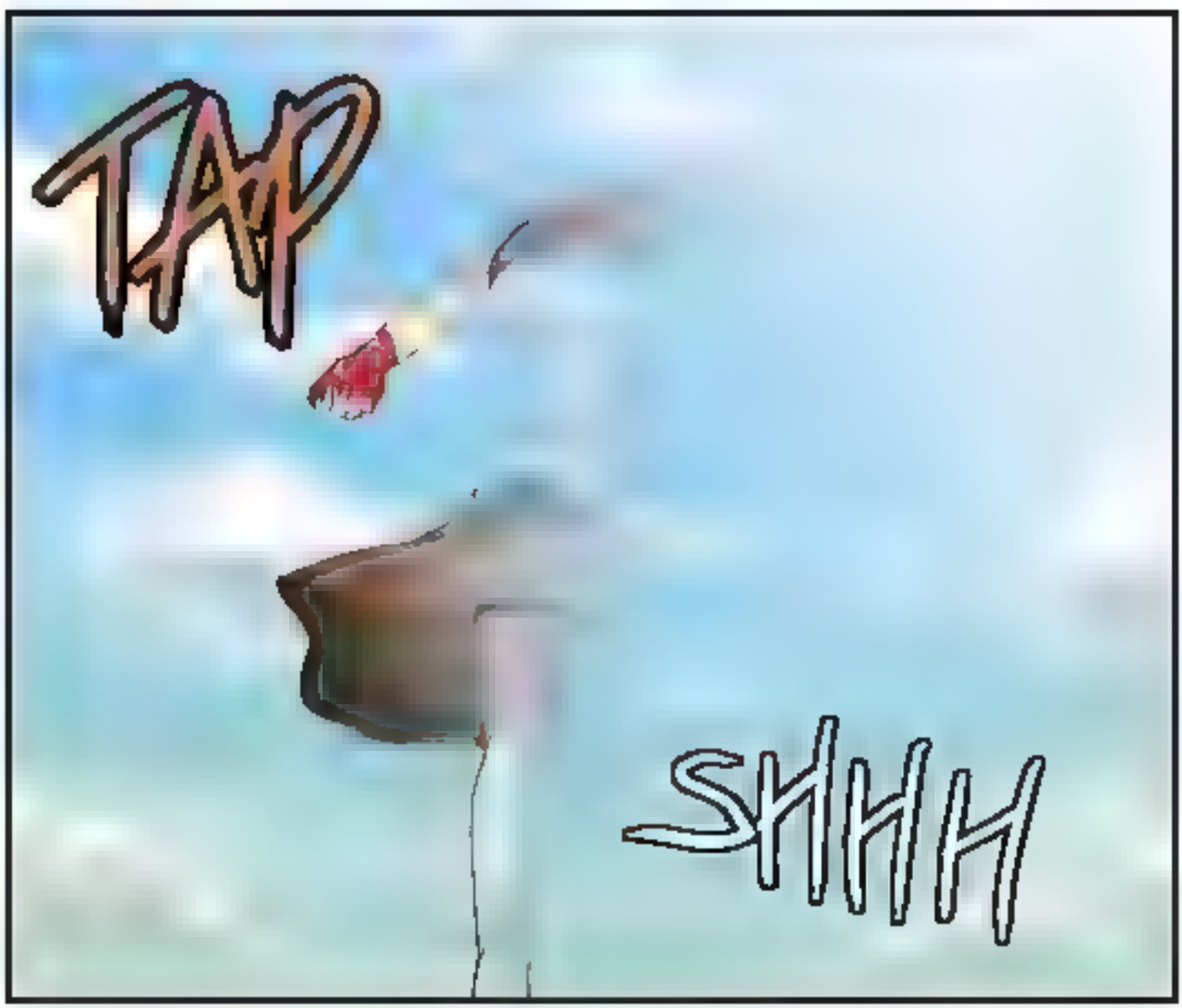
I LOOK STUPID!?

I DON'T KNOW EITHER! WHERE AND HOW I GOT THIS POWER!
URGH

NOD
NOD

I WILL REMEMBER YOUR NAME AND FACE.

TURN


TAP
SHHH

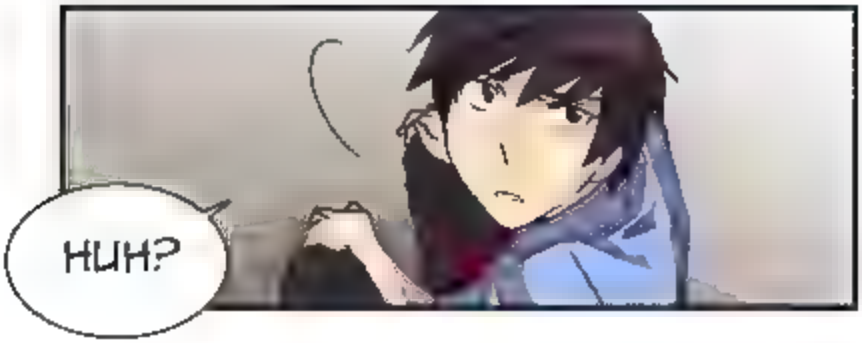
HEY!
WHAT ABOUT
MY QUESTION!?

WHAT'S THIS!
DAMN!

GONE.

YOU SHOULD
AT LEAST TELL ME
WHAT PROTECTED
SPACE IS!

CRAAC



CRACK
CRACK
CRAACK
CRAACK

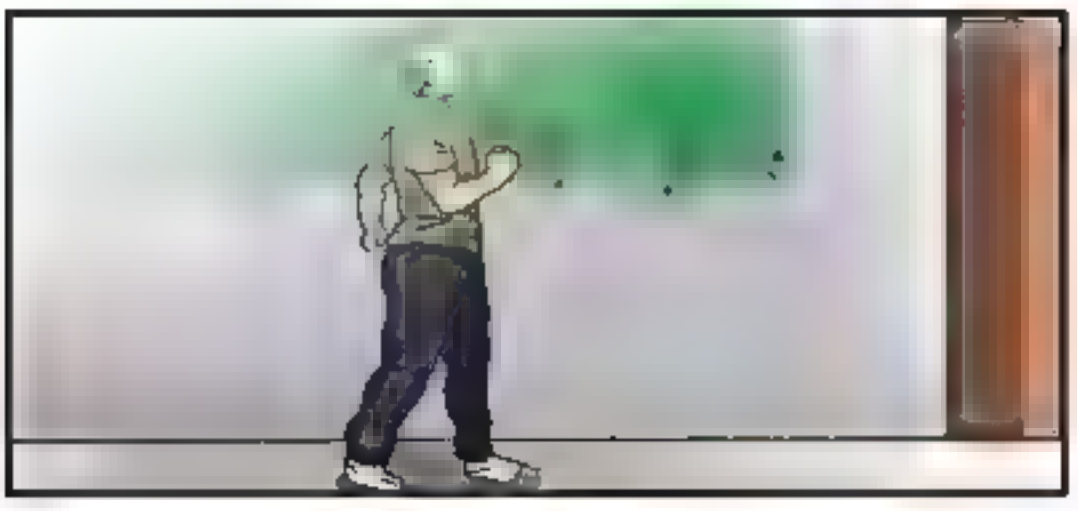
WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW?

IT'S BREAKING?
CRAACK
CRACK

CRACK

CRAING

TWIT TWIT



AM... I BACK
TO THE REAL LIFE?

<THE GAMER>
LV 6 JIHAN H.

YES.

I'M BACK.

TO THE
REAL LIFE.

THE
GAMER

YOU JERK,
YOU'RE LATE!?

T, TEACHER,
IT'S NOT THAT.
SHUT UP.
COUNT 5.

ONE!

SLAM

WITH LOVE.

ARGH!

DON'T SCREAM. IT'S YOUR FAULT BEING LATE.

TAP TAP

HEY, JIHAN.

DO I HIT YOU BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T DO WELL ON YOUR STUDIES? OR YOU BEHAVE WEIRD?

NO, I AM JUST ASKING YOU TO DO THE LEAST THINGS BUT WHY ARE YOU LIKE THIS?

YOU'RE RIGHT. YOU DON'T GET MAD AT OTHER THINGS FOR SURE.

MY HOMEROOM TEACHER KIHYUN DO. AGE 42, SINGLE.

MAGNANIMOUS MAN

HE ONLY FOCUSES ON ONE THING.

JUST DO WHAT'S RIGHT.

THAT'S IT.

IF WE DON'T, HE GETS MAD AND BEATS US.

THANKS TO THAT, GANGS IN MY CLASS JUST LIVE QUIETLY.

HE'S NOT AFRAID OF COPS,

AND JUST HITS THE STUDENT IF THEY ARE GOING THE WRONG WAY.

HE'S ACTUALLY GOOD AT FIGHTING

THOSE HAVING A GRUDGE ATTACKED HIM BEFORE,

BUT THEIR LEGS AND ARMS GOT BROKEN.

PASSIONATE TEACHER LV15 KIHYUN D.

AND HIS LEVEL IS 15. AMAZING

AVERAGE STUDENTS ARE LEVEL 3~6, SO HE IS ALMOST 3 TIMES STRONGER THAN THEM.

YOU'RE NOT LISTENING, HUH?

TWO!

SLAM

UGH!

BEEP!

A NEW SKILL IS CREATED WITH A SPECIFIC ACTION.

BEEP!

'PHYSICAL ENDURANCE' IS CREATED, WHICH ENDURES THE PAIN AND DAMAGE.

THROB
THROB

OH...

IT HURTS SO MUCH AND WHAT'S THIS?

THREE!

HUGH!

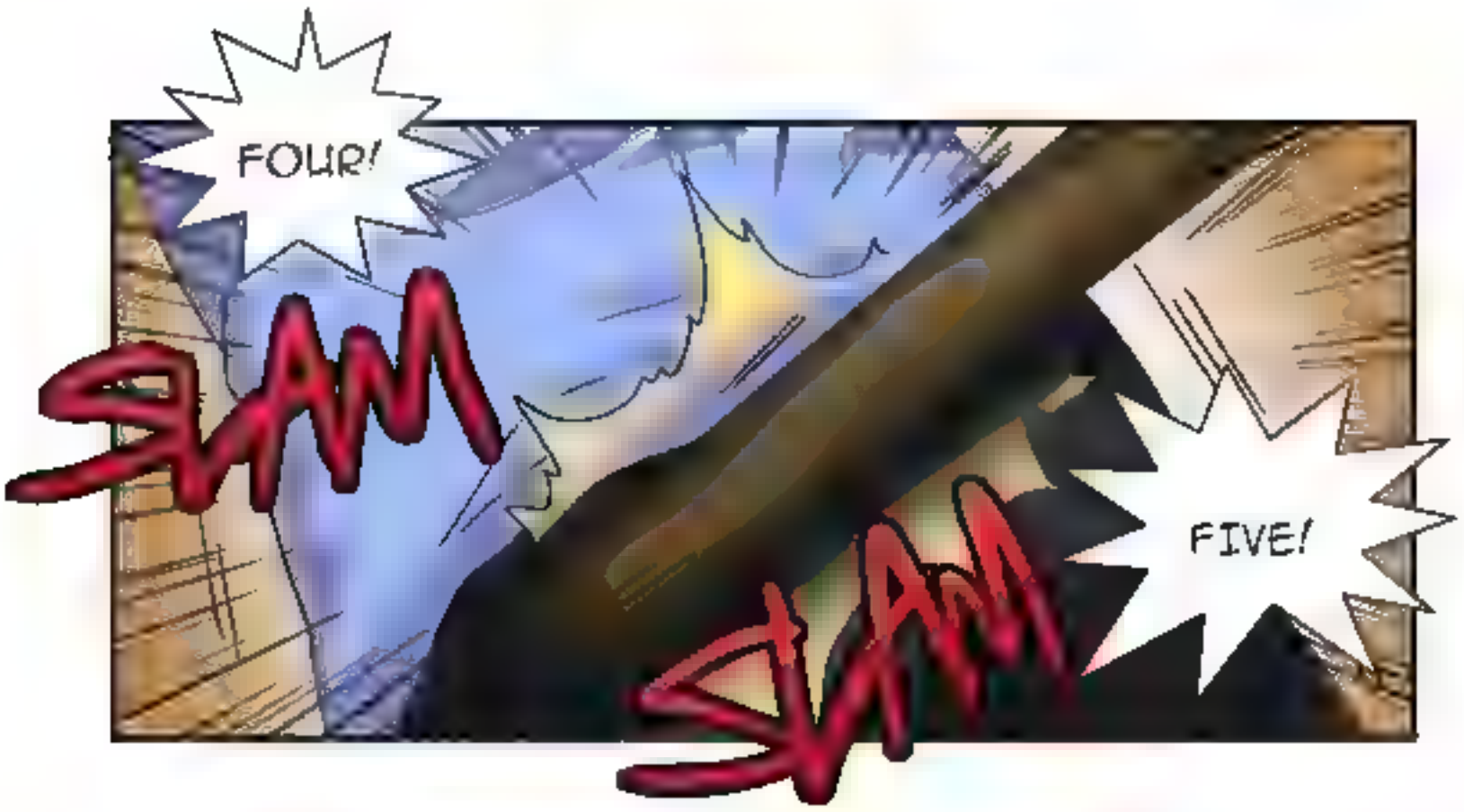
BEEP!

THE EXPERIENCE OF SKILL
PHYSICAL ENDURANCE INCREASED.

[PHYSICAL ENDURANCE (PASSIVE)
LV1 EXP: 5.23%]
THE BODY DURABILITY INCREASES AND
IT LOWERS THE DAMAGE OF THE BODY
PHYSICAL ATTACK DAMAGE
DECREASES BY 3%.

WHAT'S THIS?

FOR SOME REASON, MANY SKILLS ARE GETTING CREATED...



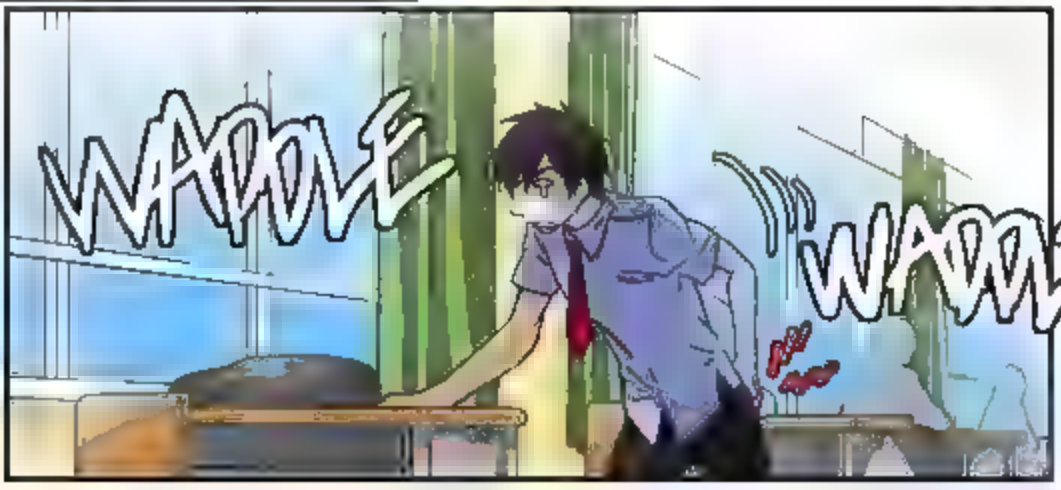
BEEP—

THE EXPERIENCE OF SKILL
PHYSICAL ENDURANCE INCREASED.

[PHYSICAL ENDURANCE (PASSIVE)
LV1 EXP: 15.78%]
THE BODY DURABILITY INCREASES AND
IT LOWERS THE DAMAGE OF THE BODY.
PHYSICAL ATTACK DAMAGE
DECREASES BY 3%.

GET BACK TO YOUR SEAT.

I GET BEAT UP. AND WITH THAT THE SKILL EXP. INCRESES...



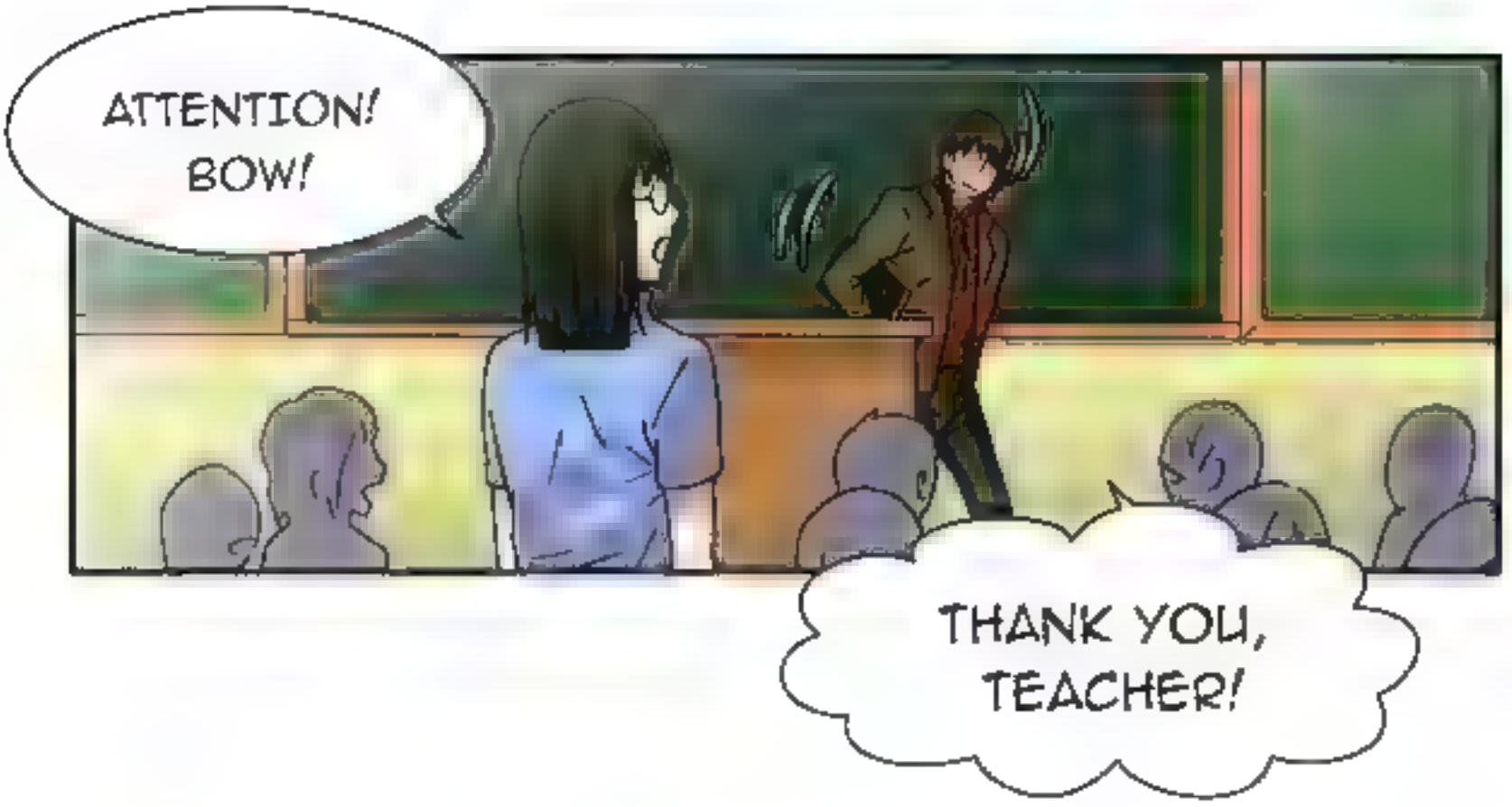
I'M NOT HAPPY WITH THIS NEW SKILL! NOT AT ALL!

WELL, THE SUMMER VACATION ENDED NOT TOO LONG AGO.

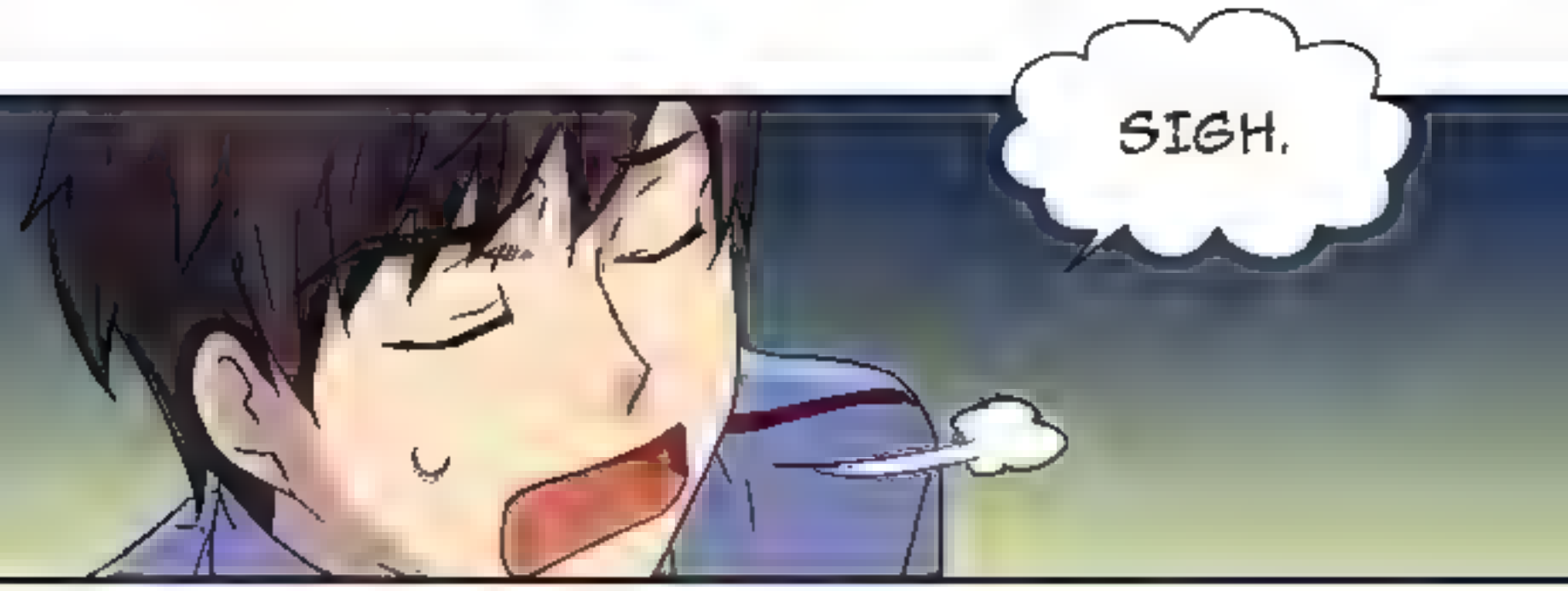
DON'T BE SLACK LIKE HIM AND STUDY HARD FOR A GOOD UNIVERSITY!

THE ONES WHO ALREADY GAVE UP ON UNIVERSITY, SHOULD THINK OF YOUR FUTURE JOB.

THAT'S IT.


ATTENTION!
BOW!
THANK YOU, TEACHER!

TAP


SIGH.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH TODAY?

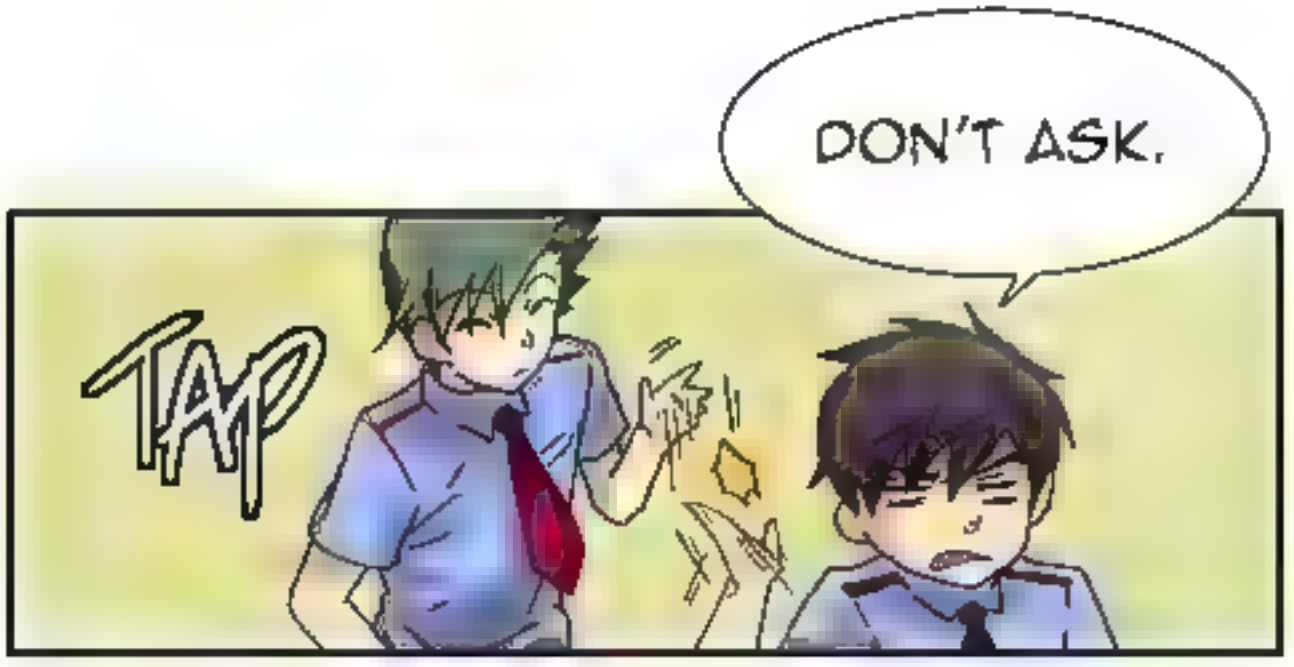
I MET SOME PEOPLE WITH WEIRD ABILITIES COMING TO SCHOOL,

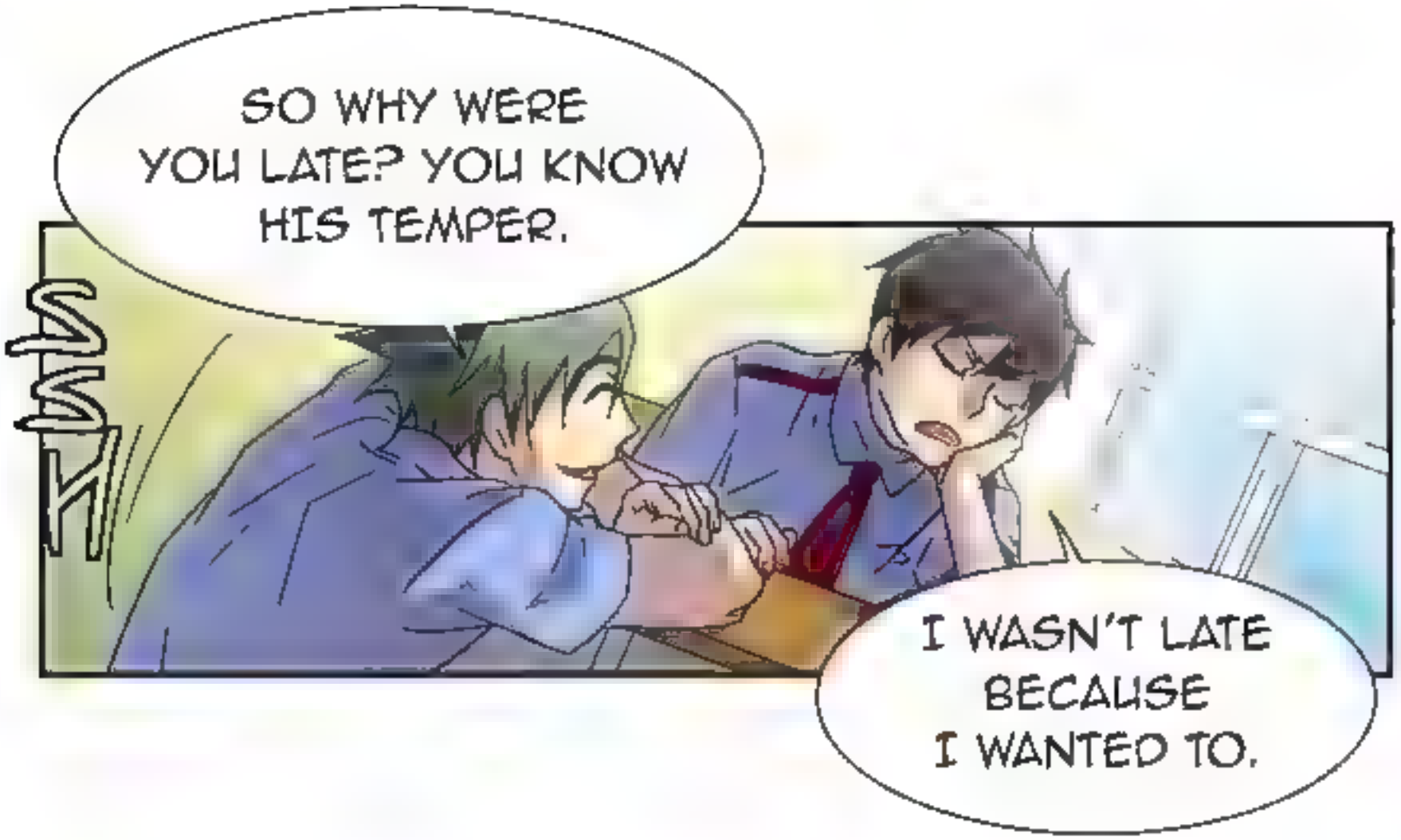
AND I AM BEATEN BY THE TEACHER BECAUSE I WAS LATE FOR SCHOOL...

THAT WAS HARSH. ARE YOUR BUTTS OK?
TAP

TURN

SMILE


DON'T ASK.
TAP


SO WHY WERE YOU LATE? YOU KNOW HIS TEMPER.
SIGH
I WASN'T LATE BECAUSE I WANTED TO.

GOSH.

UNTIL YESTERDAY, I DIDN'T REALLY THINK THAT MUCH ABOUT MY POWER OF SEEING THE LEVEL OF OTHERS...

<SUCCESSOR OF CHEONBU FAMILY> LV 25 SEONIL S

?

OR MY STRENTH GOING UP BY LEVEL UP.

MY LEVEL INCREASED TO 6, AND I LEARNED SKILLS.

ACTUALLY, I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW IF THERE WERE OTHER SKILLS TO LEARN.

THREE SKILLS ARE LEARNED SO FAR.

DUE TO THE CONTINUOUS OBSERVATION, A NEW SKILL [OBSERVATION] IS CREATED IT SHOWS THE INFORMATION OF A TARGET

A NEW SKILL [TEAR OFF] IS CREATED WHICH USES EXCESSIVE STRENGTH

OBSERVATION, TEAR OFF, AND PHYSICAL ENDURANCE.

THE EXPERIENCE OF SKILL PHYSICAL ENDURANCE INCREASED.

[PHYSICAL ENDURANCE (PASSIVE) LV1 EXP 5.23%]
THE BODY DURABILITY INCREASES AND IT LOWERS THE DAMAGE OF THE BODY PHYSICAL ATTACK DAMAGE DECREASES BY 3%

AS WE SEE THE SKILL IS CREATED WHEN I DO A SPECIFIC ACTION.

BEING EFFECTIVE IN THE REAL LIFE, ALL THESE THINGS MUST BE REAL TOO.

THAT MEANS HIS LEVEL IS FOR REAL,

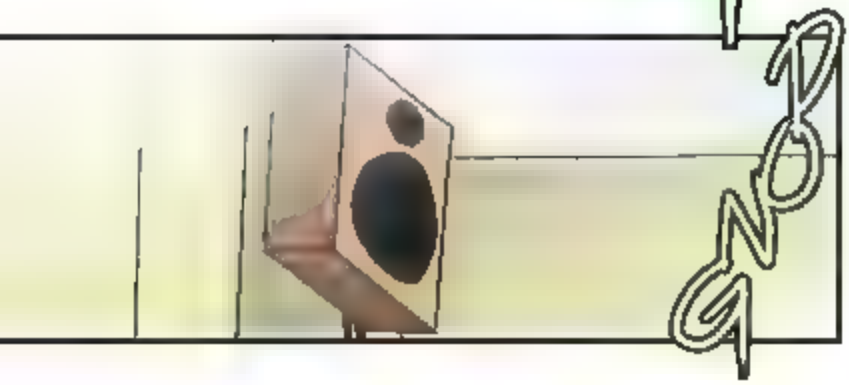
AND HE IS NOT AN ORDINARY PERSON.

?

WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT?

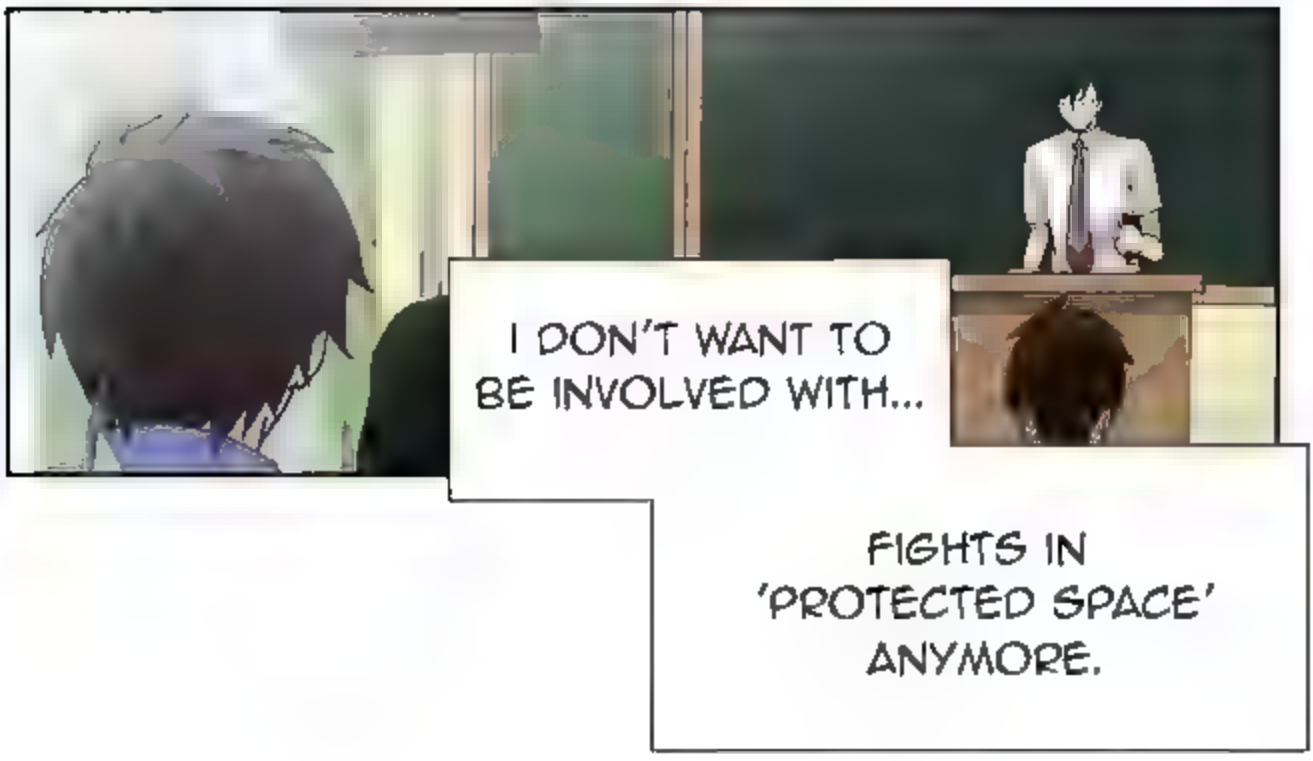
HOW COULD MY BEST FRIEND KEEP A SUCH A BIG SECRET FROM ME?

DING



FRANKLY SPEAKING, I DON'T WANT TO STUDY NOW.

I ALMOST DIED THIS MORNING!!


I DON'T WANT TO BE INVOLVED WITH...
FIGHTS IN 'PROTECTED SPACE' ANYMORE.

SO, I'LL DO A THOROUGH INVESTIGATION.
FLIP

THE GAMER

STORY BY SANGYOUNG SEONG
ILLUST BY SANG-A

LINE Webtoon

THE GAMER

STORY BY SANGYOUNG SEONG

ILLUST BY SANG-A

THINKING OF IT,
I STILL HAVEN'T ANALYZED
ANYTHING ABOUT THE WEIRD
'ABILITY' WHICH I POSSESS.

NAME JIHAN HAN

OCCUPATION THE GAMER

LEVEL LV 6

HP: 200/200

MP 100/100

POWER 15 ◀ (+0) ▶

STRENGTH 9 ◀ (+0) ▶

DEXTERITY 11 ◀ (+0) ▶

INTELLIGENCE 8 ◀ (+0) ▶

WISDOM 6 ◀ (+0) ▶

LUCK 9 ◀ (+0) ▶

POINT 10

CASH ₩3000

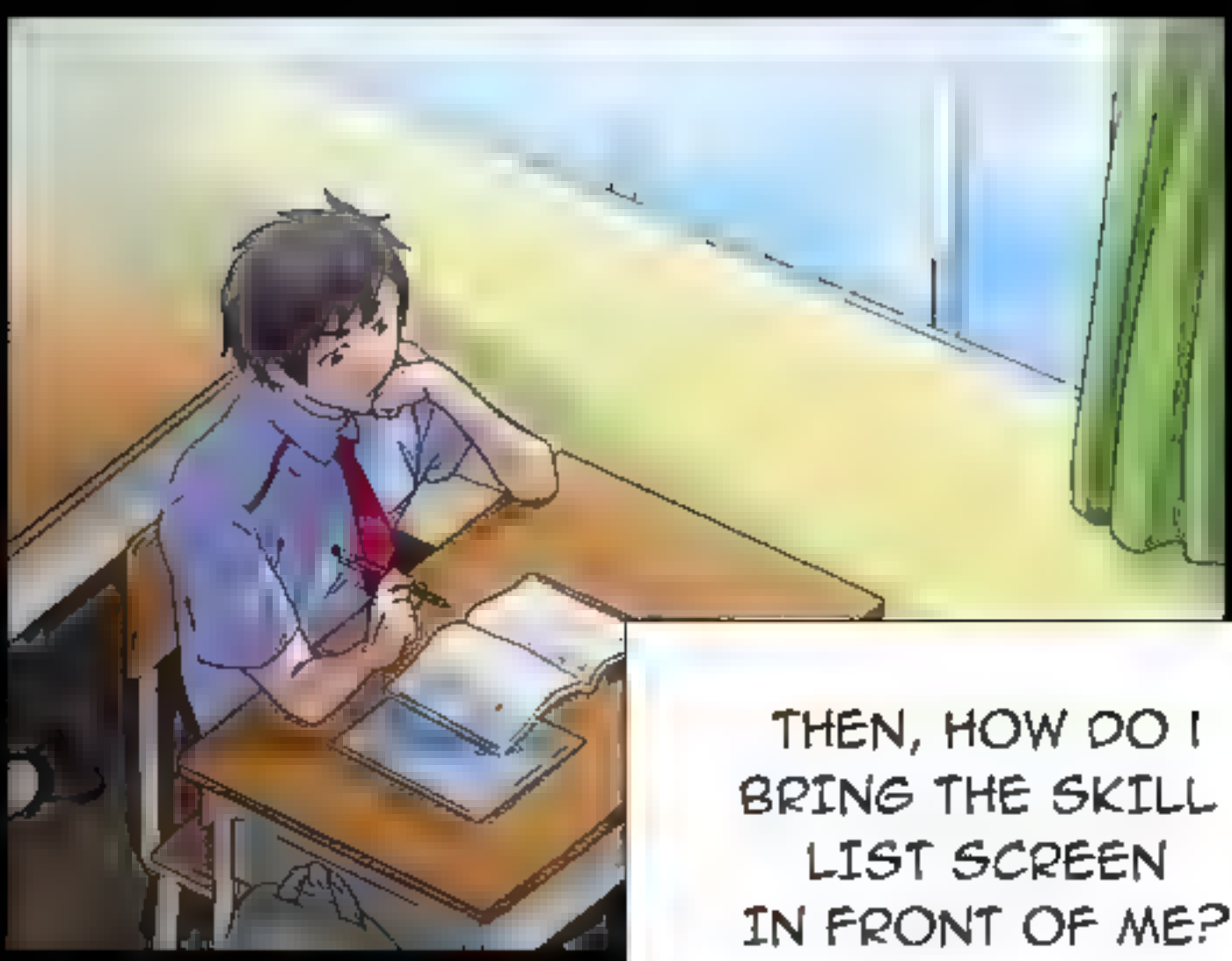
[TEAR OFF (ACTIVE) LV1 EXP 0.0%]

THE ACTION TO TEAR
SOMETHING OR SOMEONE OFF
WITH A STRONG GRIP
THE POWER OF TEARING OFF
INCREASES 30%

THE EXPERIENCE OF SKILL
PHYSICAL ENDURANCE INCREASED

[PHYSICAL ENDURANCE (PASSIVE)
LV1 EXP 5.23%]
THE BODY DURABILITY INCREASES AND
IT LOWERS THE DAMAGE OF THE BODY
WHEN GETTING PHYSICAL ATTACK
THE DAMAGE DECREASES BY 3%

ALL I SAW UNTIL NOW
ARE THE LEVEL UP SCREEN
AND SKILL CREATION SCREEN.



THEN, HOW DO I
BRING THE SKILL
LIST SCREEN
IN FRONT OF ME?

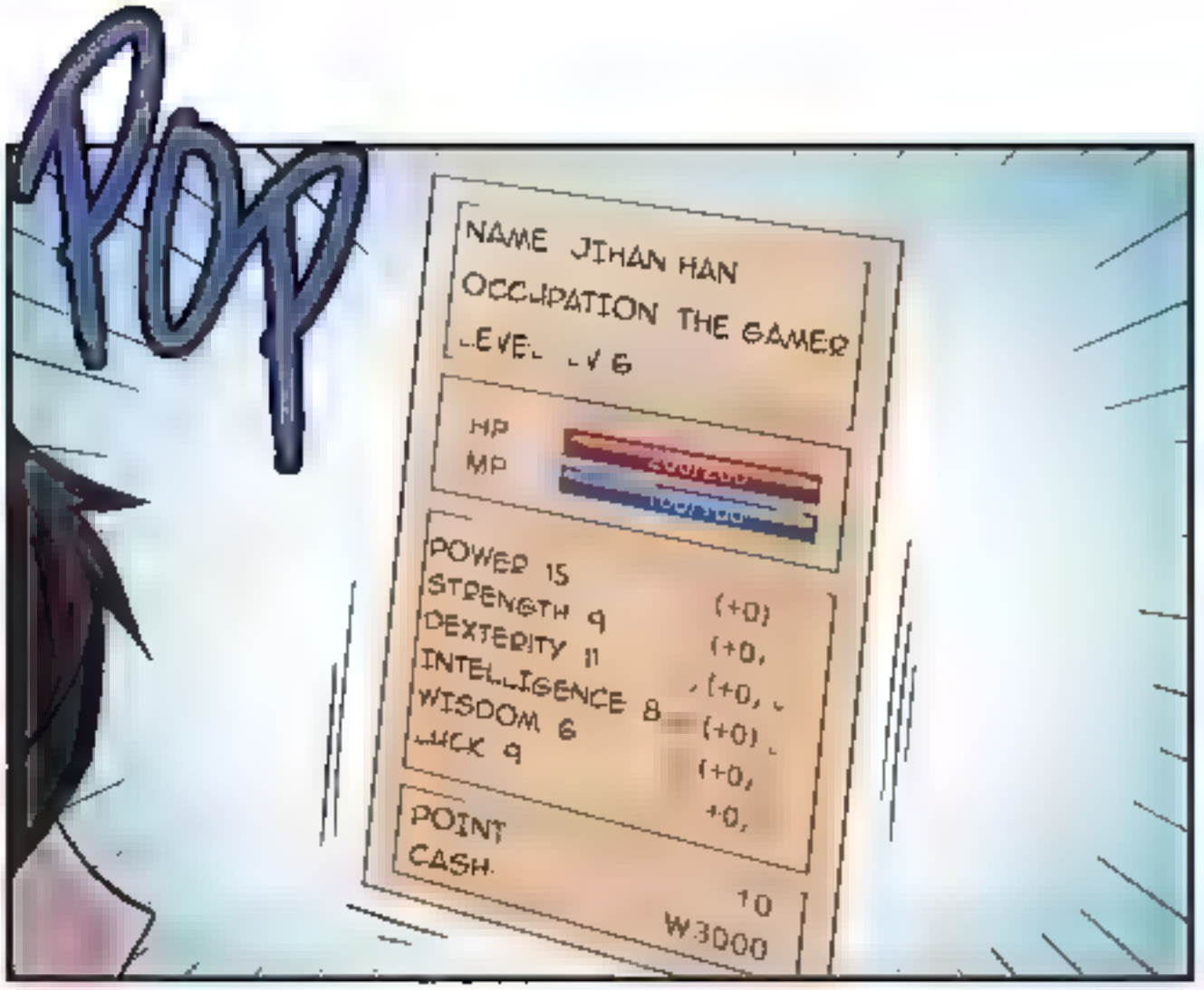
IF IT WAS A GAME
THERE IS A MENU
BUTTON ON THE SCREEN,
BUT THIS IS REAL LIFE.

IS IT A VOICE
RECONGNITION?

TEAR OFF!

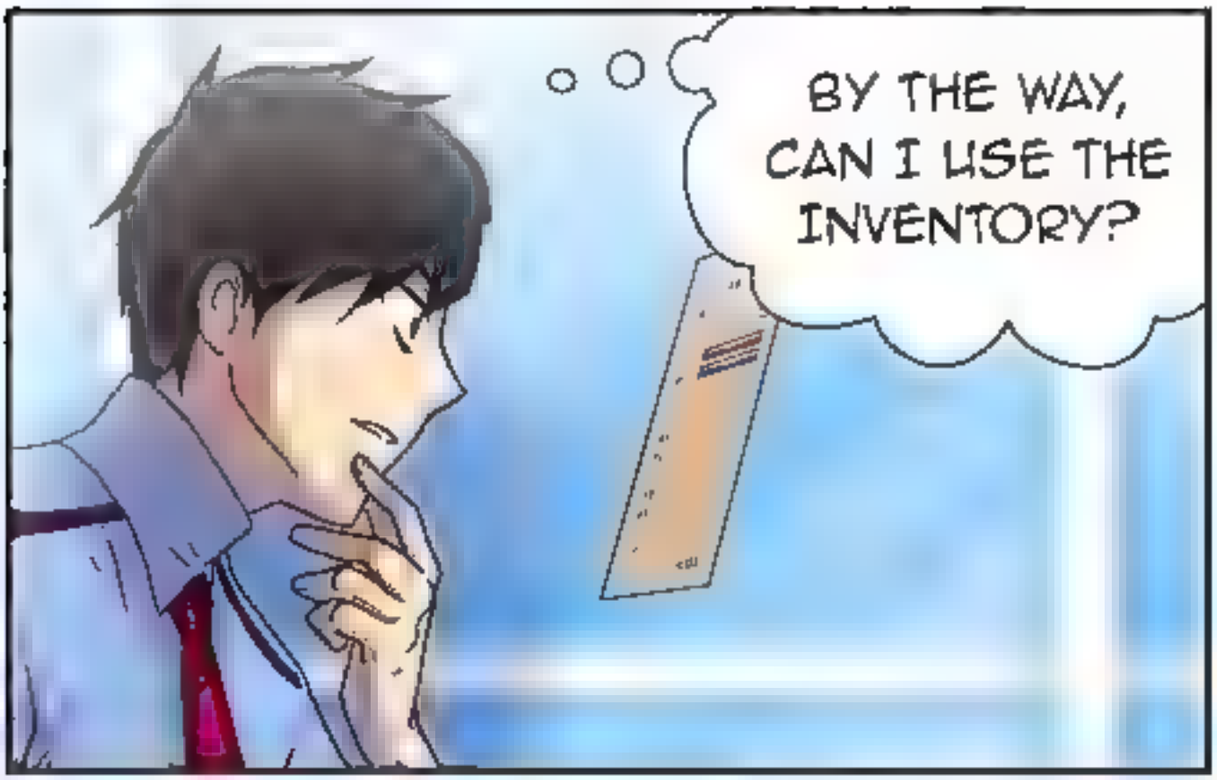
RRRR

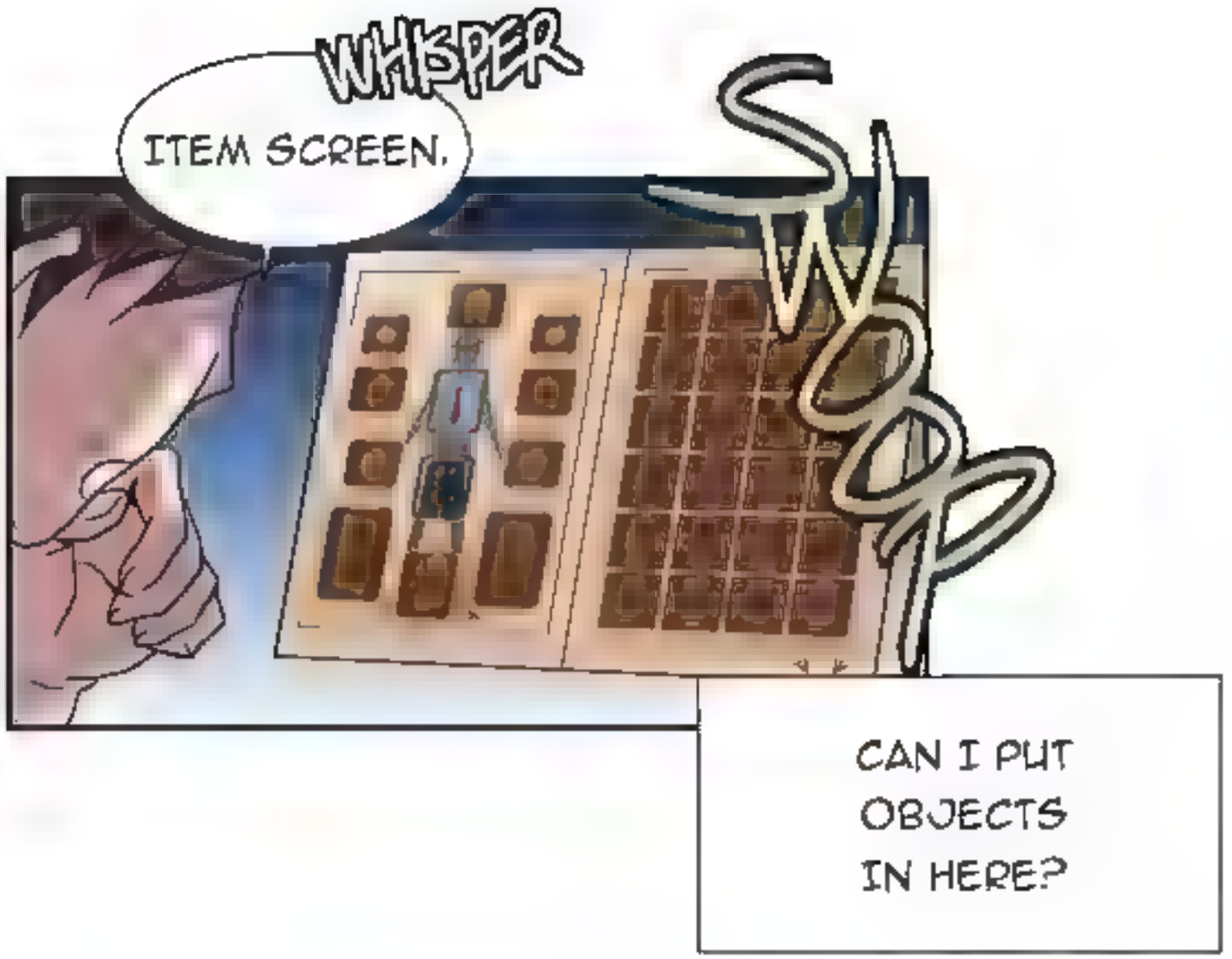
THINKING OF IT, I USED TEAR OFF SKILL BY SAYING IT.
I JUST SAID IT WITHOUT REALLY THINKING ABOUT IT.
STATUS SCREEN.
WHISPER

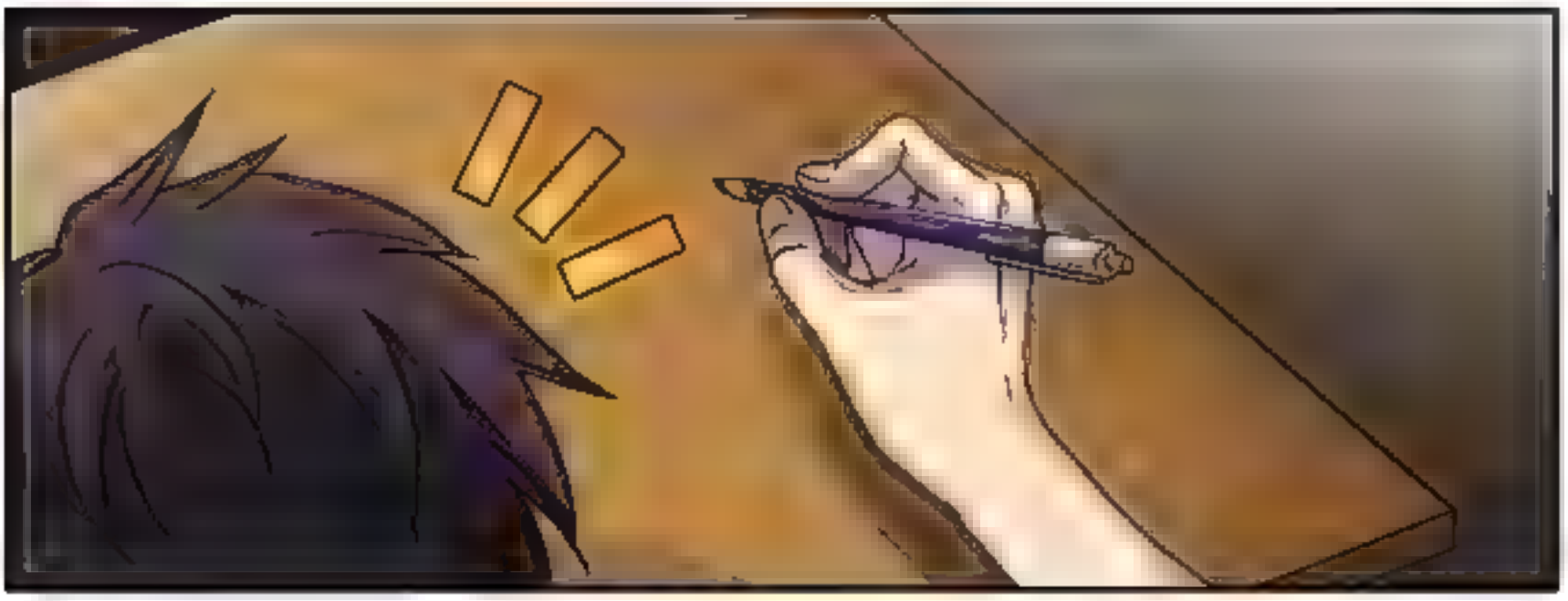


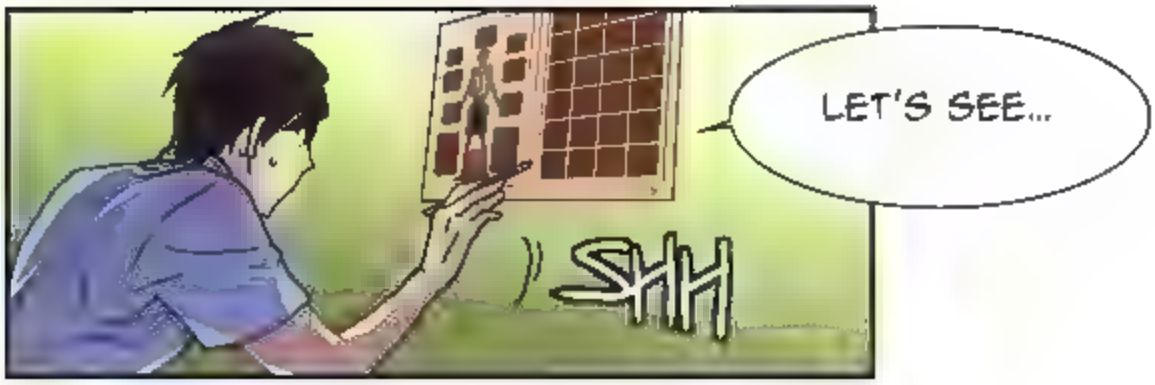
NAME JIHAN HAN
OCCUPATION THE GAMER
LEVEL LV 6
HP
MP
POWER 15 (+0)
STRENGTH 9 (+0)
DEXTERITY 11 (+0)
INTELLIGENCE 8 (+0)
WISDOM 6 (+0)
LUCK 9 (+0)
POINT 10
CASH ₩3000

SIGH
SO IT WAS AS I THOUGHT.


BY THE WAY, CAN I USE THE INVENTORY?


WHISPER
ITEM SCREEN.
SWOP
CAN I PUT OBJECTS IN HERE?




LET'S SEE...
SHH

SWOOP

WOW!
MY ABILITY WAS
GREATER THAN
I THOUGHT!

IT'S NOT JUST
ABOUT SOLVING
QUESTS AND
DOING
LEVEL UPS.

MY ABILITY WAS...

SKY AM

UGH!

JIHAN, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

SFX THROB

M... MATH TEACHER.

DIDN'T I TELL YOU TO FOCUS DURING THE CLASS?
I KNOW...
HANDS.
YES SIR.
SSH
WHAT'S WRONG TODAY.

FOR YOUR STRENGTH, HOW ABOUT 5 HITS?

ONE!

UGH!

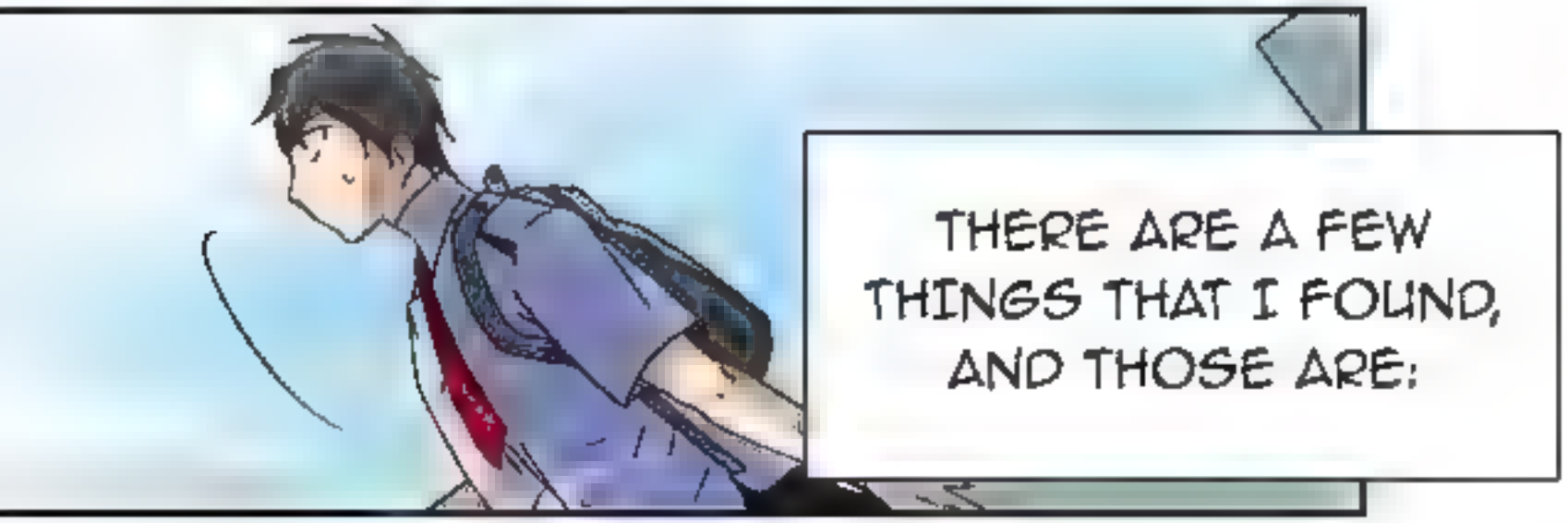
I AM

IT FEELS AS MY HANDS ARE BURNING!

BEEP!
THE LEVEL OF PHYSICAL ENDURANCE INCREASED.
I DON'T NEED THIS KIND OF LEVEL UP!!

I DON'T REMEMBER HOW TIME WENT IN SCHOOL.

I DIDN'T REALLY STUDY TODAY, I JUST SPENT TIME CHECKING OUT MY ABILITY.



1. IF I REPEAT A SPECIFIC ACTION, SOME SKILL IS CREATED.
2. MY BODY IS CLOSE TO THAT OF A GAME CHARACTER.
3. THERE WAS A SKILL THAT I DIDN'T KNOW.

THE EXPERIENCE OF SKILL
PHYSICAL ENDURANCE INCREAS

[PHYSICAL ENDURANCE (PASSI
LV1 EXP: 15.78%]
THE BODY DURABILITY INCREA
IT LOWERS THE DAMAGE OF THE BOD
WHEN GETTING PHYSICAL ATTACK,
THE DAMAGE DECREASES BY 3%.

IN THE CASE OF
THE FIRST ONE,
IT WAS SOMETHING
I LEARNED FROM THE
FIGHT AND THE HIT
FROM THE TEACHER.

BUT THERE'S
A PROBLEM WITH
THE SECOND ONE.

SOMETHING IS
WIERD ABOUT
MY BODY.

WHEN I FELL DOWN FIGHTING THAT SLIME,

TWIRL

AAHH

SKEETCH

AN ORDINARY MAN WOULD GOT A BROKEN BONE. BUT FOR ME I JUST FELT PAIN AND THAT WAS IT.

KRGH!

POW

AND AT THAT TIME, I DIDN'T NOTICE, BUT THE PAIN WENT AWAY SOON.

IT WAS THE SAME WITH THE BEAT TODAY.

WO!

IT HURT WHEN I GOT HIT,
BUT THE PAIN WENT AWAY.

YES. MY BODY HAS THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE GAME CHARACTER.

IF I GET HIT, HP DECREASES.

BUT WHEN THE HP IS FULL AGAIN, THE PAIN AND WOUND DISAPPEARS.

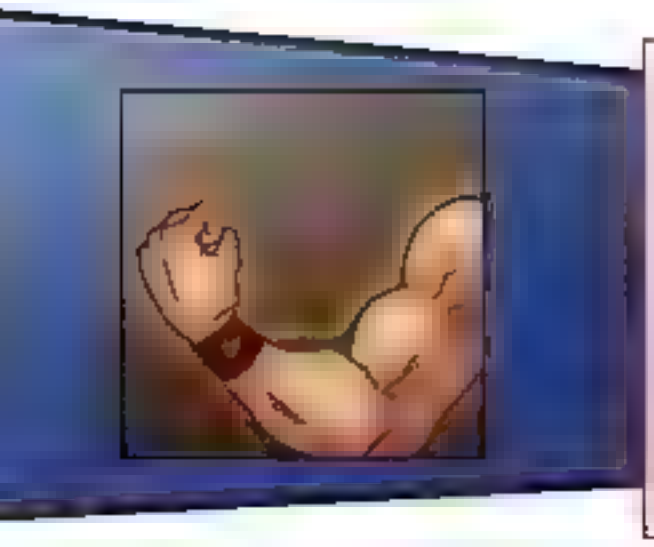
IT'S NOT AN ORDINARY BODY...
AND WHAT'S MORE SERIOUS IS THE SKILL.

IT WAS THE FIRST TIME I OPENED THE SKILL LIST, AND THERE WERE 5 SKILLS.

3 OF THEM WERE SKILLS I OBTAINED, BUT THE OTHER 2 WERE NEW TO ME.

[GAMER'S SPIRIT (PASSIVE) LV MAX]

RECOGNIZES THE REALITY AS GAME AND KEEP CALM KEEPS THE MIND CALM. IMMUNITY TO MENTAL DISORDER.



[GAMER'S BODY
(PASSIVE) LV MAX]

IT PROVIDES THE BODY
TO LIVE THE REALITY AS GAME

I UNDERSTOOD
WHEN I SAW THIS.

WHY I WAS SO
CALM WHEN I WAS
FIGHTING
THE SLIME.

AND WHY I WAS SO
CALM WHILE I WAS
TALKING TO
SHIYEON KWON.

WELL,
THINK
OF IT.

LET'S SAY I'M PLAYING RPG GAME.

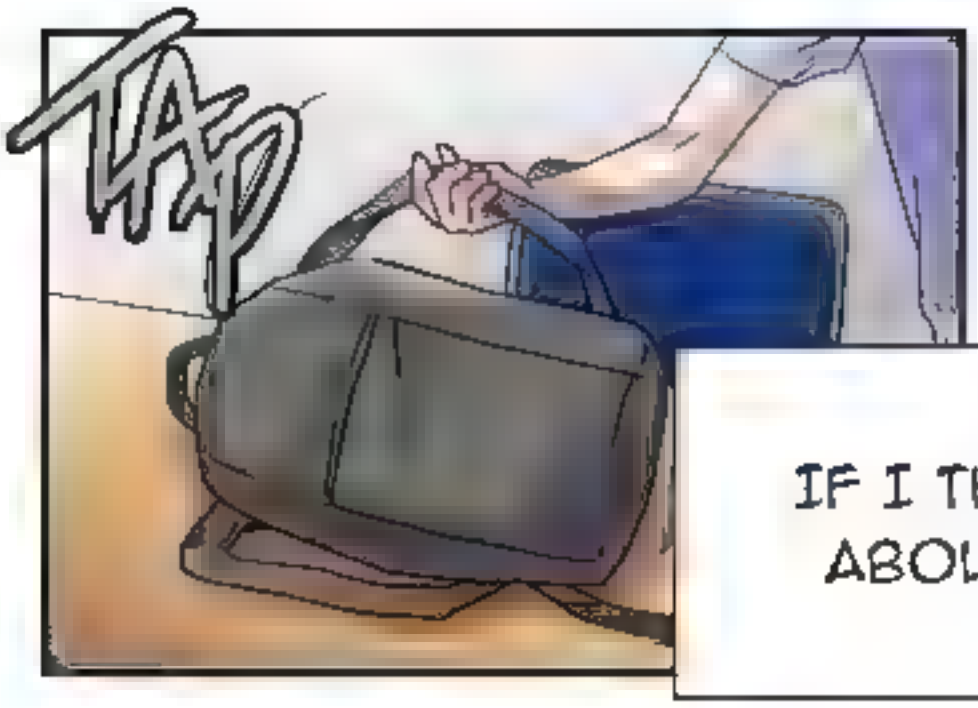
WHEN YOU CHOOSE AN ANSWER DURING THE CHARACTER'S CONVERSATION.

YOU DON'T GET NERVOUS OR SCARED.

CLANK

CREEK

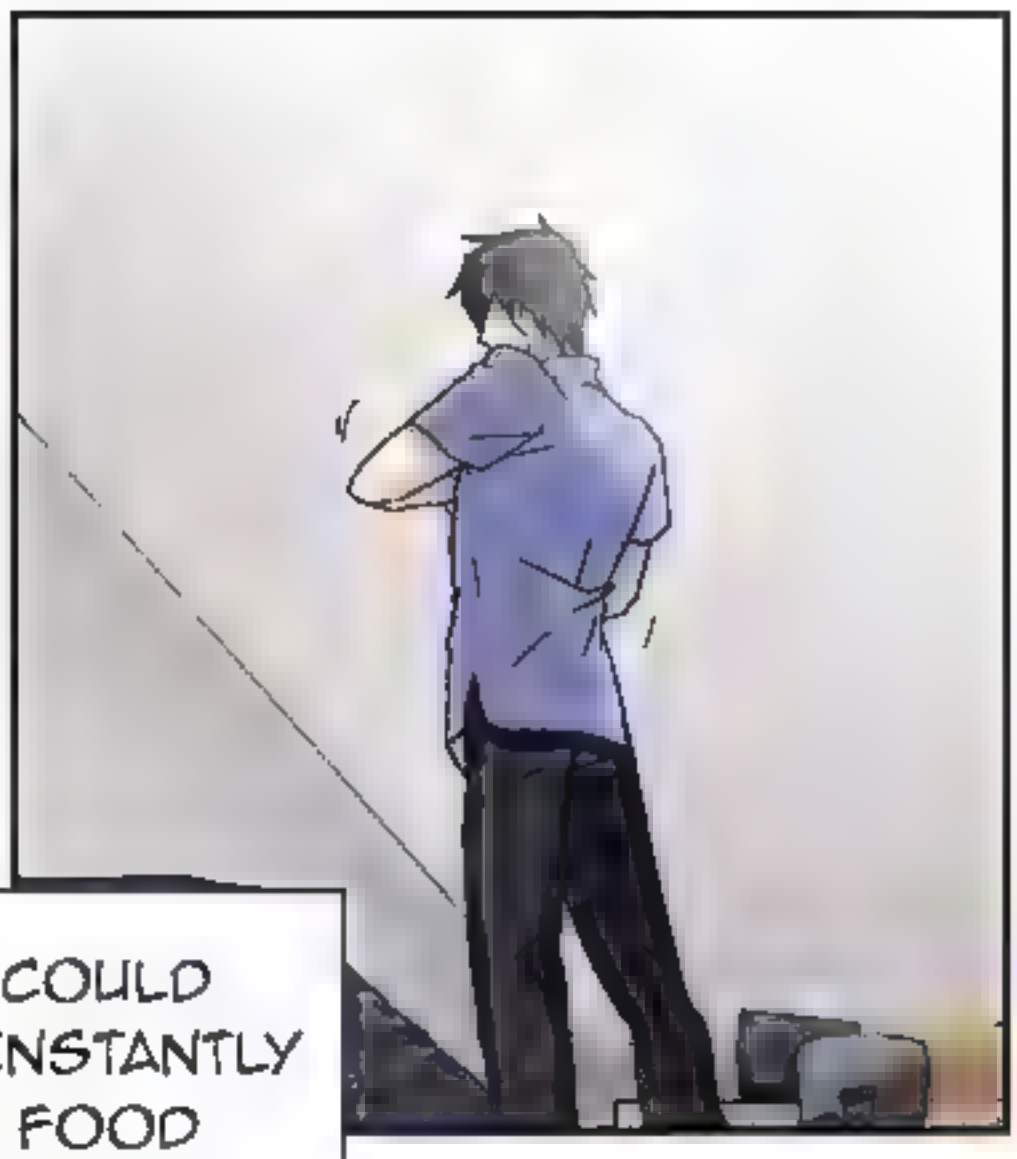
AND I THINK THE REASON THAT I WAS SO CALM WAS BECAUSE OF THIS SKILL.



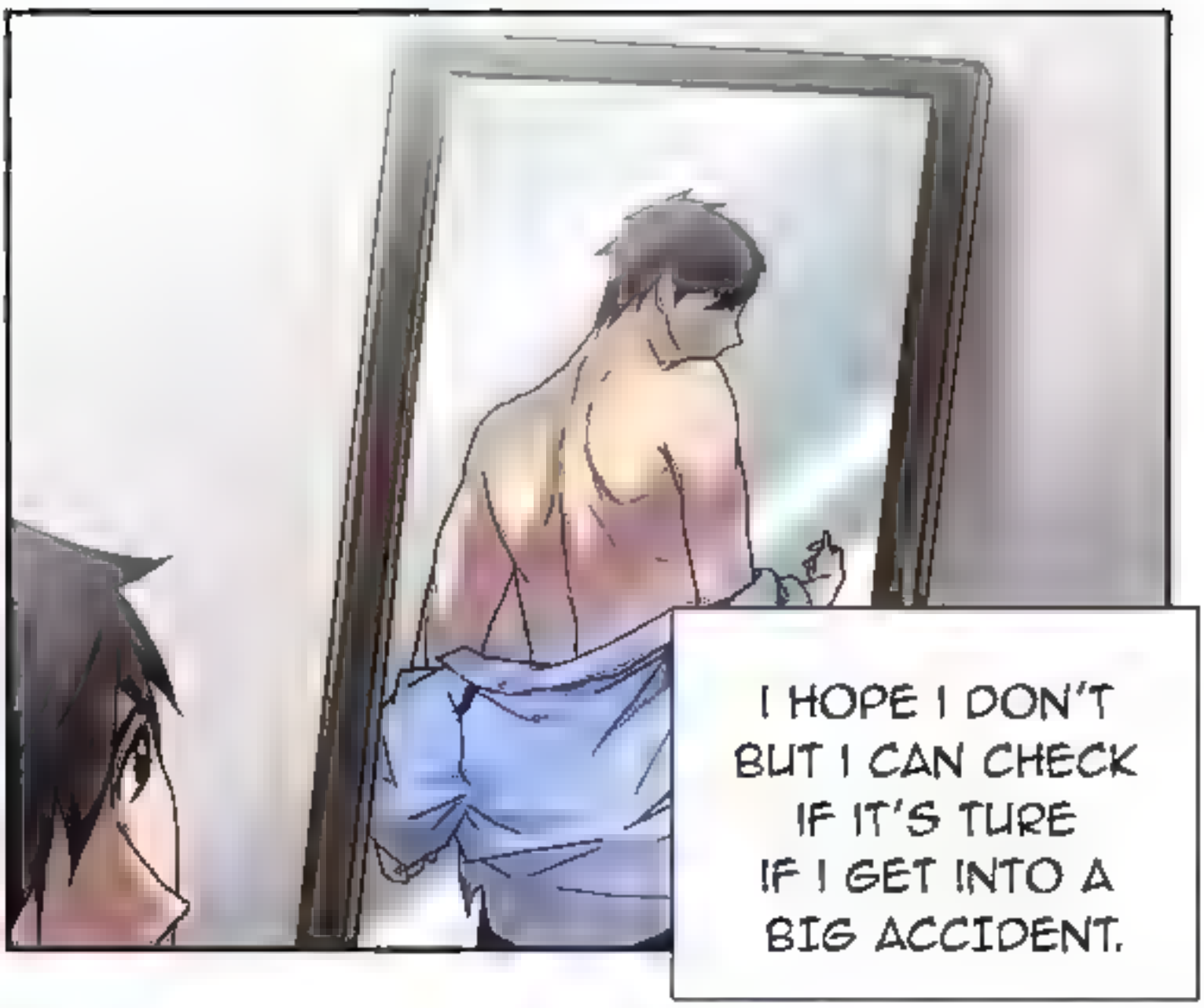
IF I THINK ABOUT IT,

I'M LIKE A GAME CHARACTER LIVING IN THE REAL LIFE.

EVEN IF I'M HURT,



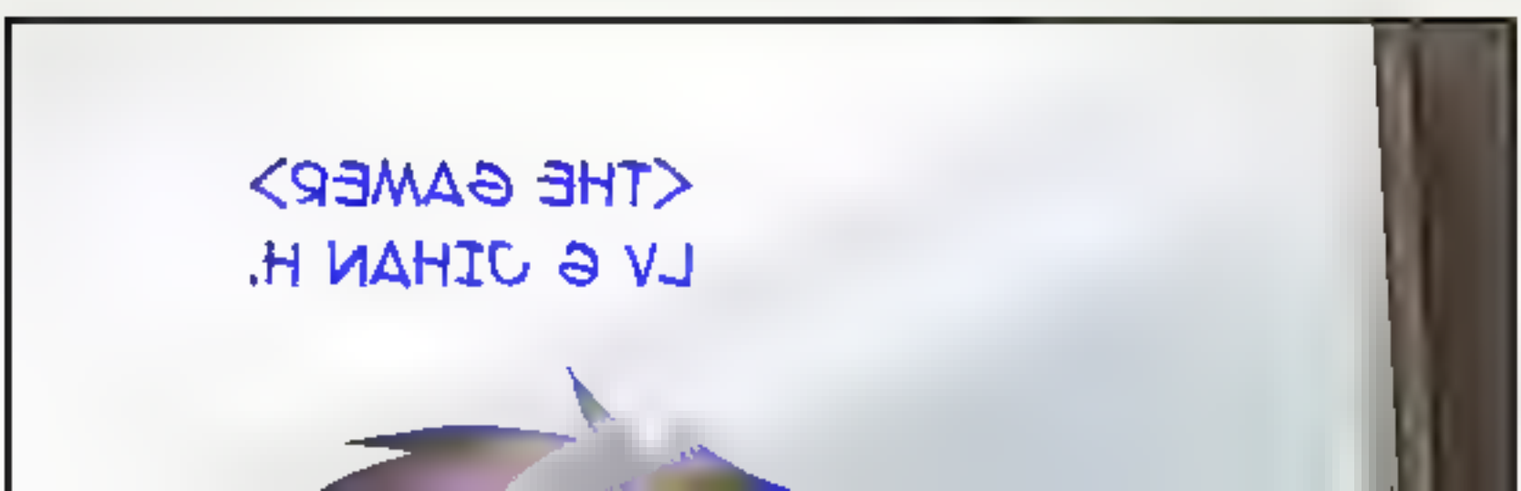
I THINK I COULD BE CURED INSTANTLY IF I ATE FOOD ALONG WITH THE INCREASE OF HP.

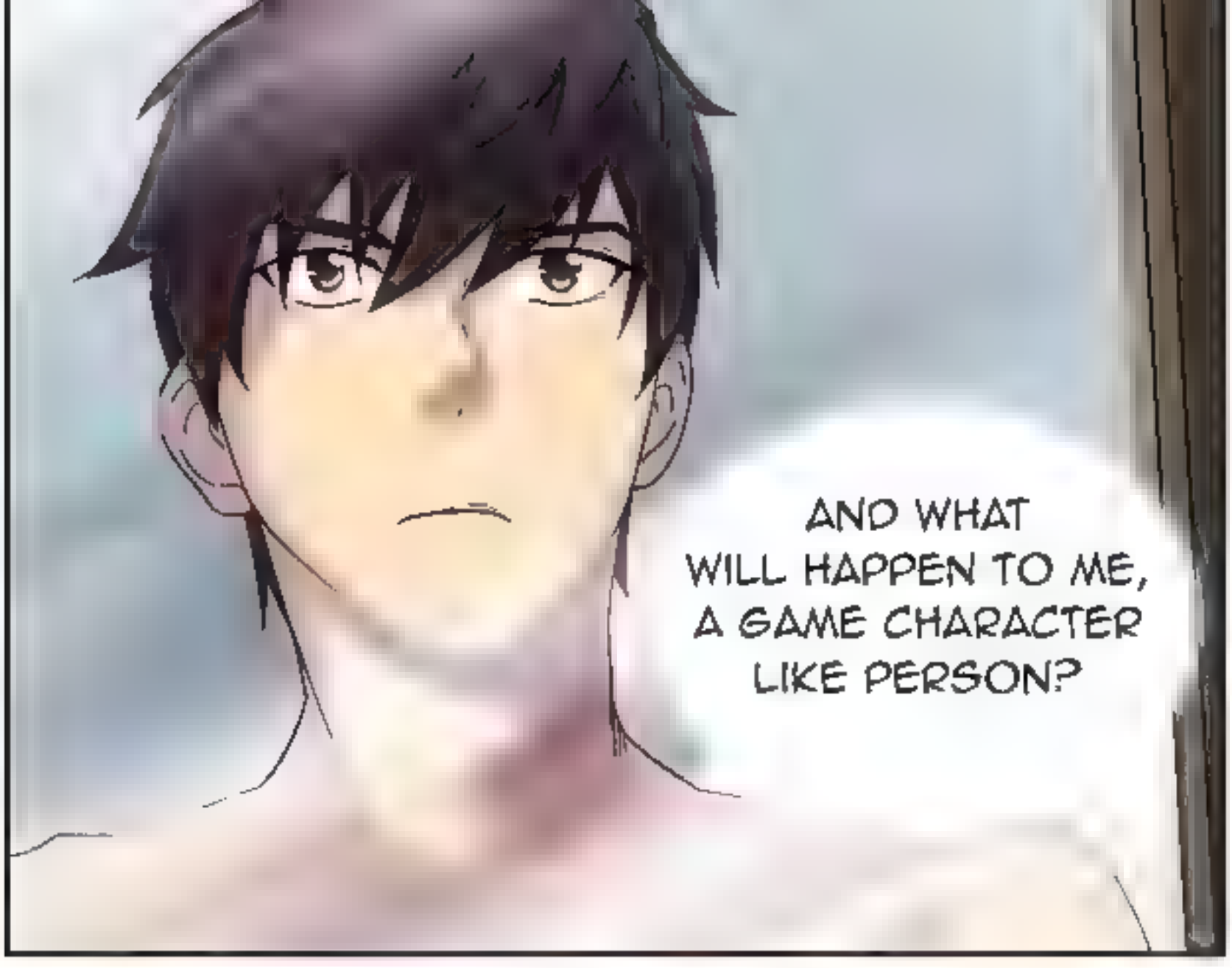

I HOPE I DON'T
BUT I CAN CHECK
IF IT'S TURE
IF I GET INTO A
BIG ACCIDENT.

BUT THERE'S
STILL A REAL
PROBLEM.

HOW CAN I ESCAPE FROM THAT 'PROTECTED SPACE'?

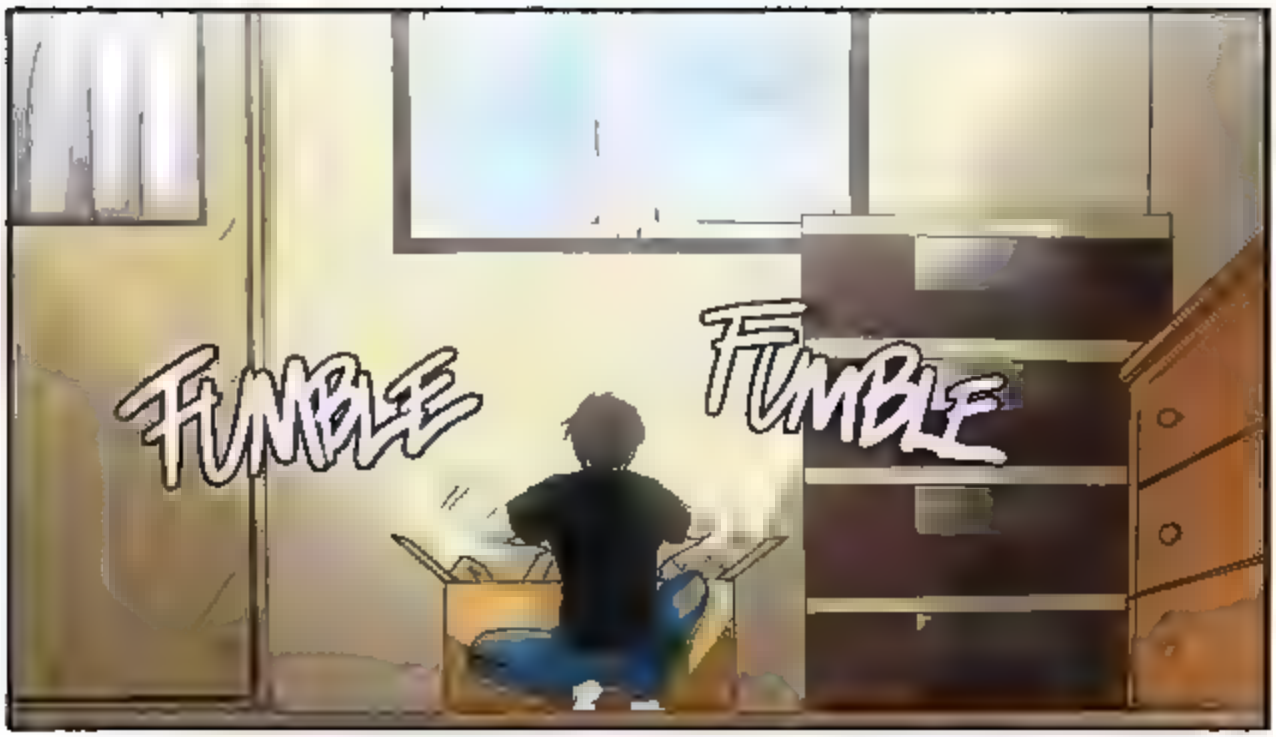
AND EVEN IF I CAN, WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I MEET PEOPLE LIKE THEM IN REAL WORLD?



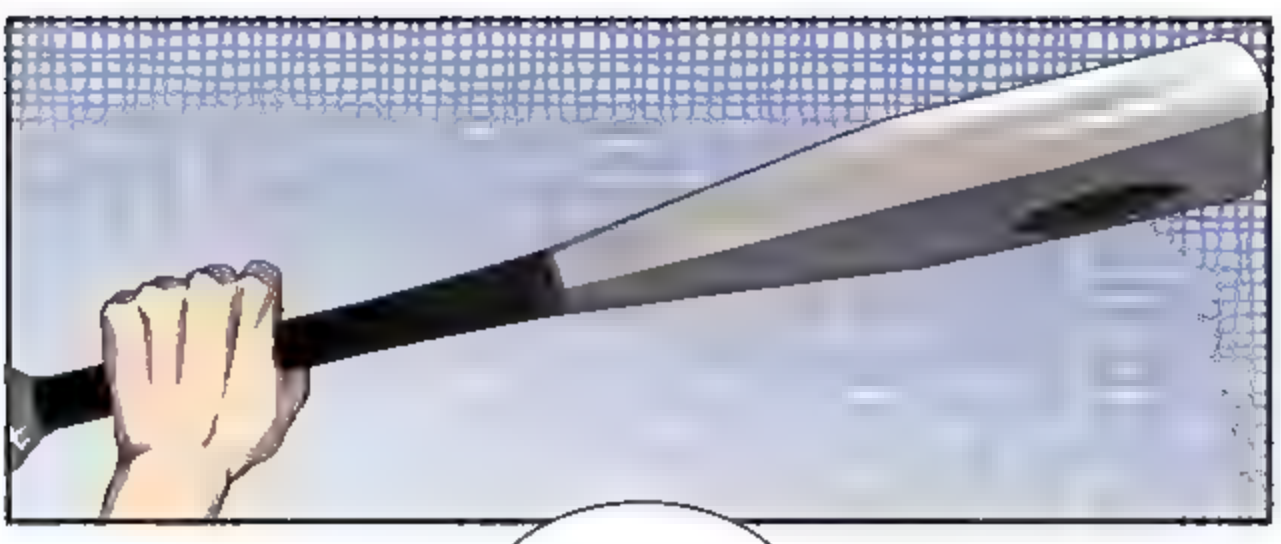


THE GAMER

NEXT DAY- SUNDAY

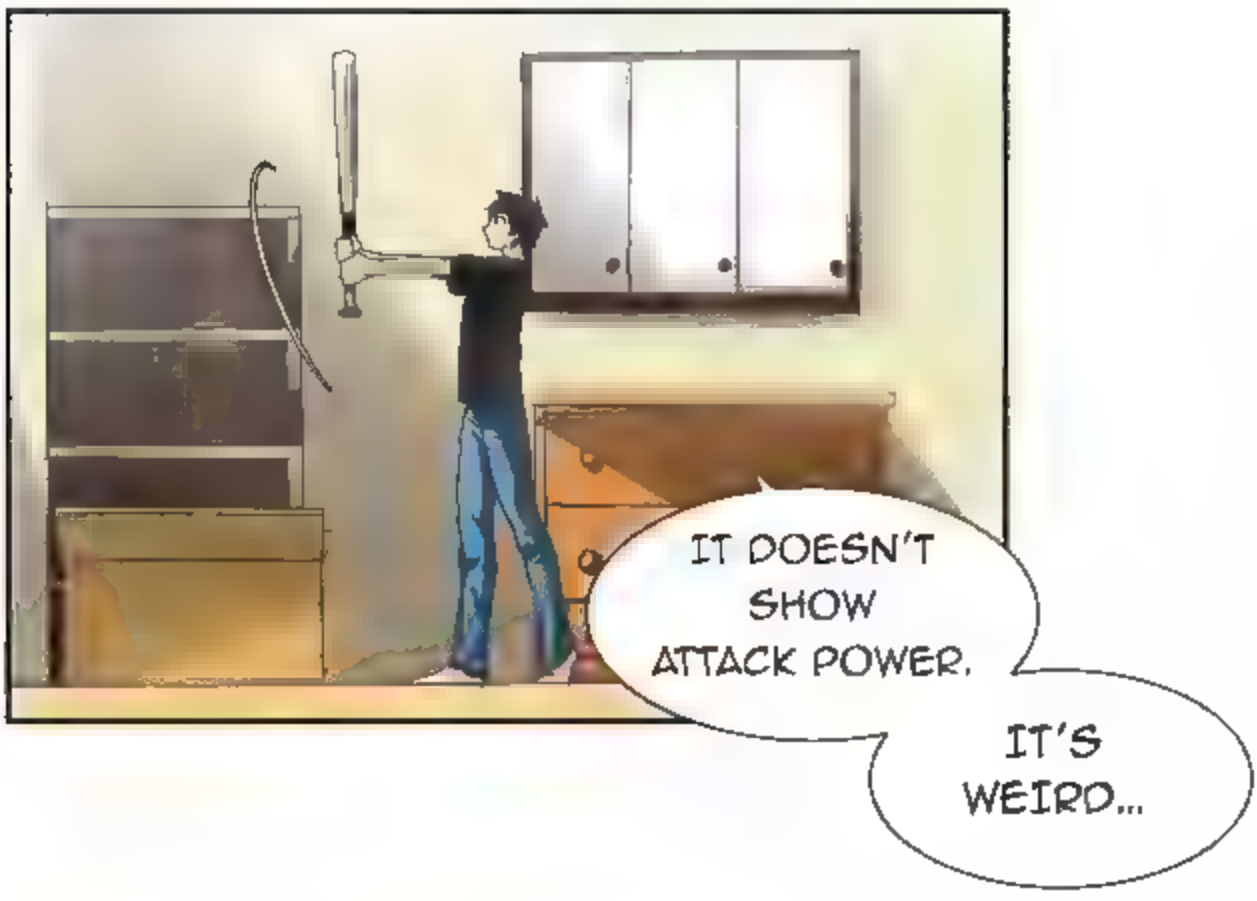

FUMBLE
FUMBLE

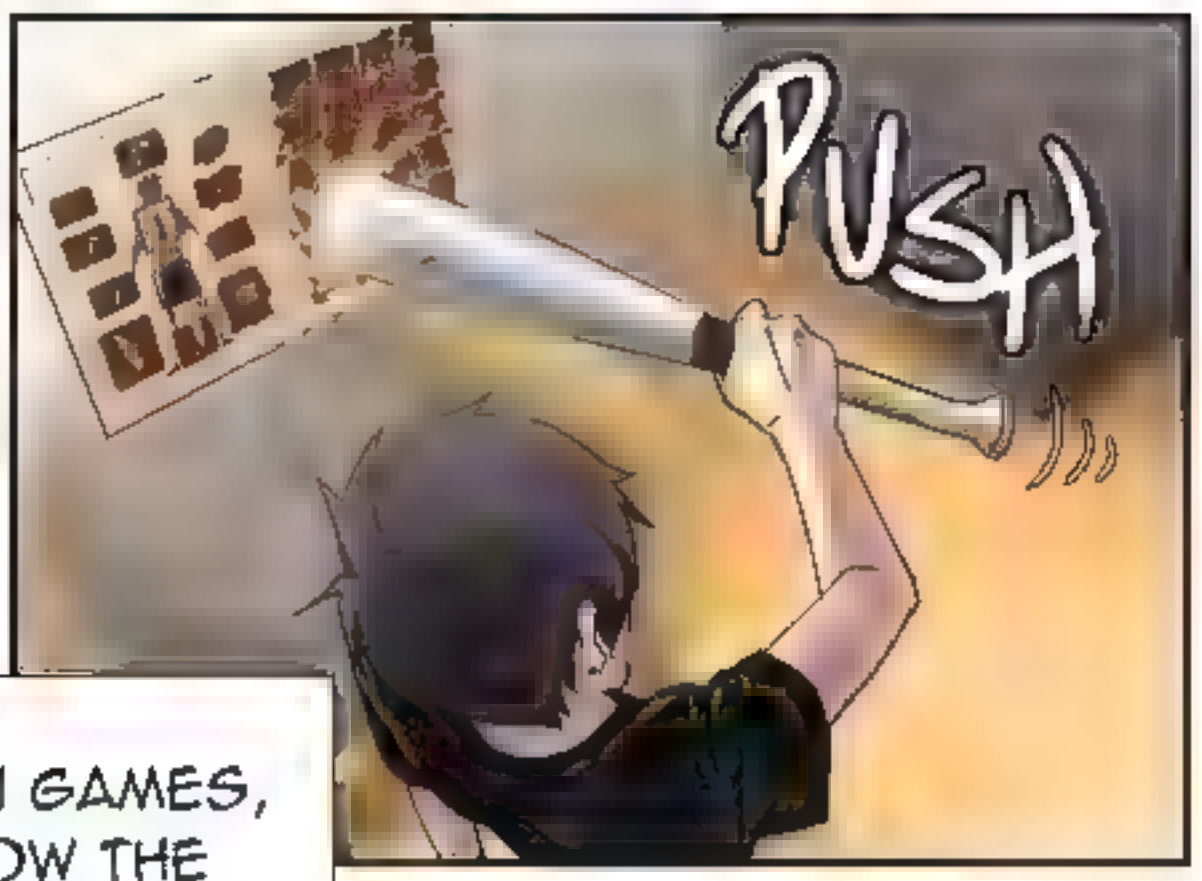
FOUND IT.


OBSERVATION.

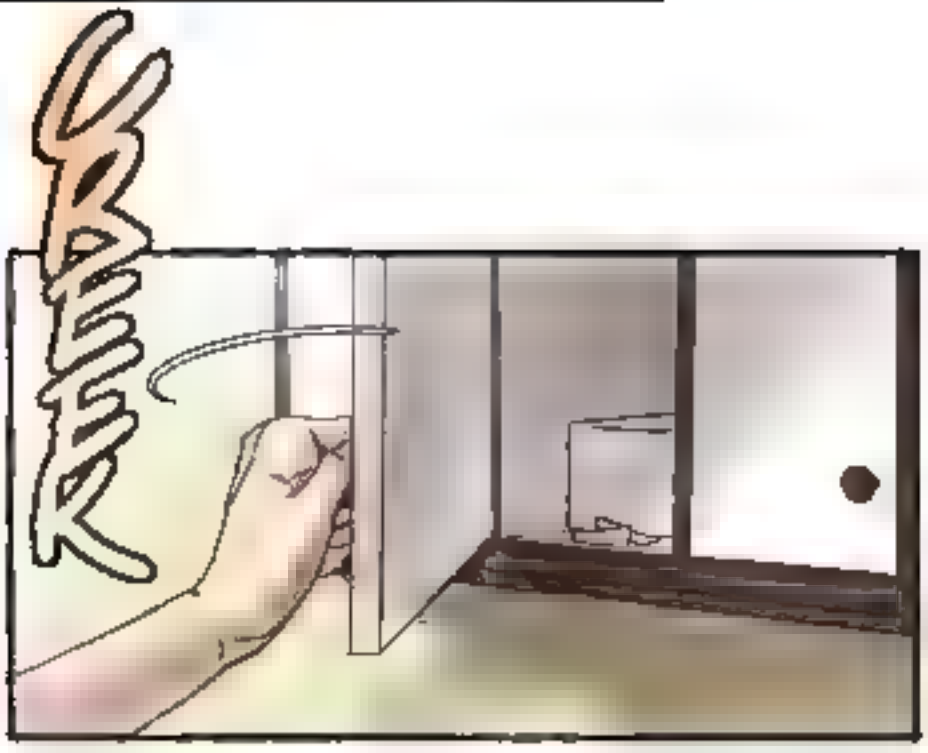
MATSTAR ALUMINIUM BASEBALL BAT.
MADE BY REALTEC.

AN ALUMINIUM BAT MADE BY
THE REALTEC, AN MIDDLE SIZED COMPANY.
IT IS MORE DURABLE AND LIGHTER
THAN THE BAT MADE OF WOOD.





USUALLY IN GAMES, THEY SHOW THE ATTACK POWER AND DEFENSE POWER, IS IT BECAUSE IT'S REALITY?



ORAMADI
MADE BY PHARMACEUTICS
ALAPHUM CO., LTD.

USED WHEN WOUNDED
INSIDE THE MOUTH.
CURES ORAL CAVITY.

FOSIDINE.
MADE BY PHARMACEUTICS
KWANGMYEONG CO., LTD.

FOSIDINE IS FOR WOUNDS.
+HP 5
CURES BLEEDING.
CURES INFECTION.

BAKHAS.
MADE BY PHARMECEUTICS
AEINS CO., LTD.

BAKHAS FOR FATIGUE!
CURES SLEEPINESS.
FORCED AWAKENING FOR 1 HR.
50% DECREASE WHEN TAKEN IN A ROW.

HMM.

I THOUGHT IT MIGHT, BUT I DIDN'T REALLY EXPECT IT FOR REAL.

BY THE WAY, FOCIDINE ONLY INCREASES 5 HP?

FOSIDINE.
MADE BY PHARMACEUTICS
KWANGMYEONG CO., LTD.

FOSIDINE FOR WOUNDS.
+HP 5
BLEEDING.

HOW MANY OF THOSE DO I NEED TO MAKE IT USEFUL?

NAME. JIHAN HAN
OCCUPATION: THE GAMER
LEVEL: LV 6

HP:
MP:

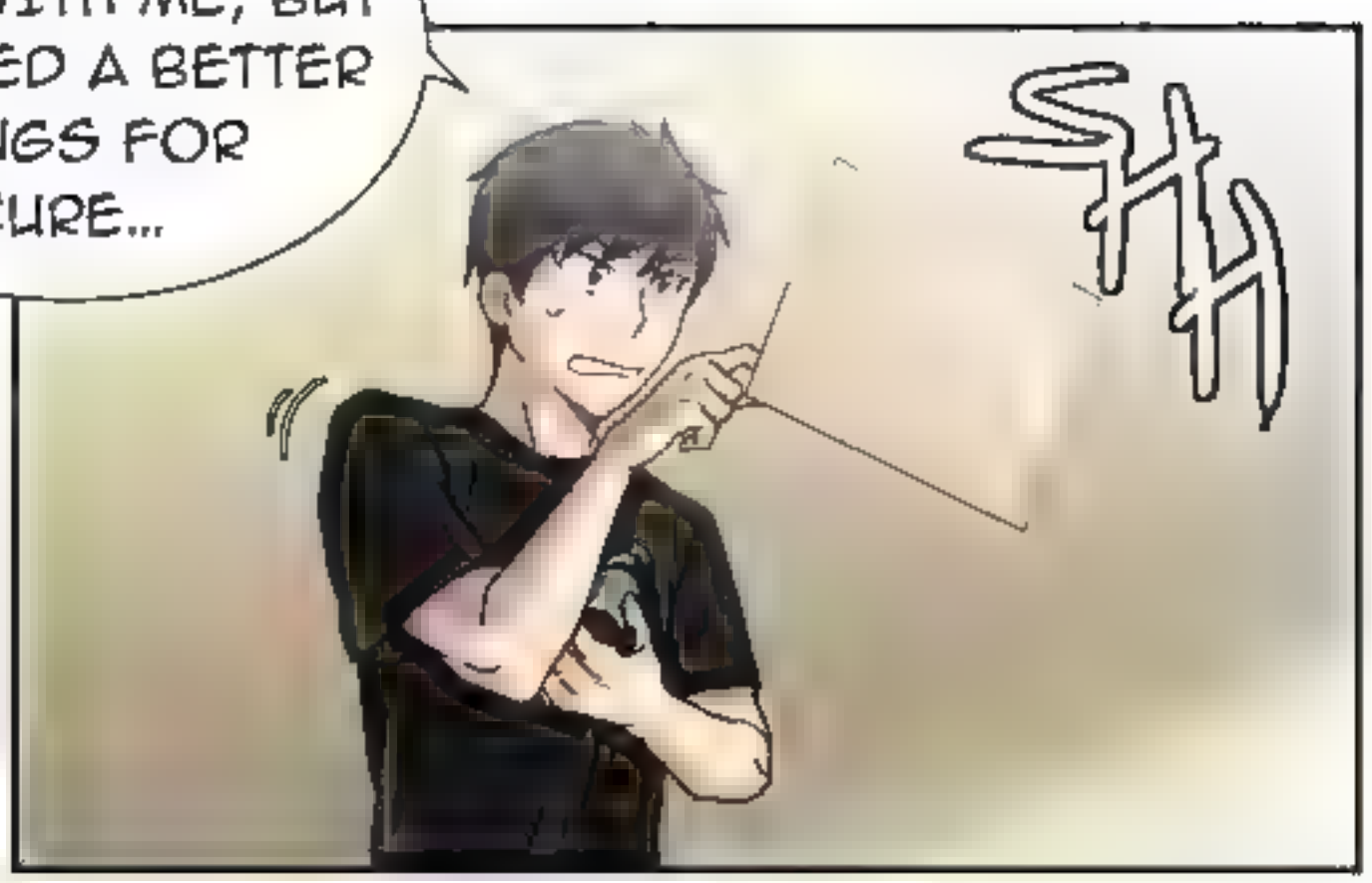
POWER: 15 (+0)
STRENGTH: 9 (+0)
DEXTERITY. 11 (+0)
INTELLIGENCE. 8 (+0)
WISDOM. 6 (+0)
LUCK: 9 (+0)

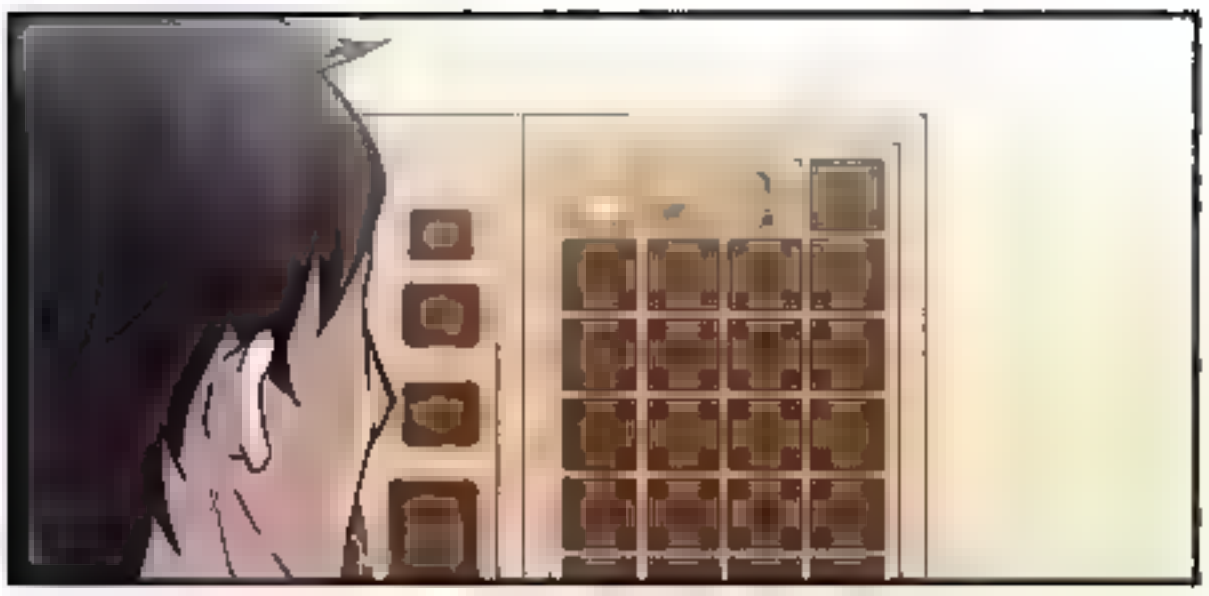
POINT 10
CASH: W3000

WELL, ANYWAY MY HP IS JUST 200.

THIS IS TOO LITTLE...

I STILL TAKE THESE WITH ME, BUT I'LL NEED A BETTER THINGS FOR CURE...

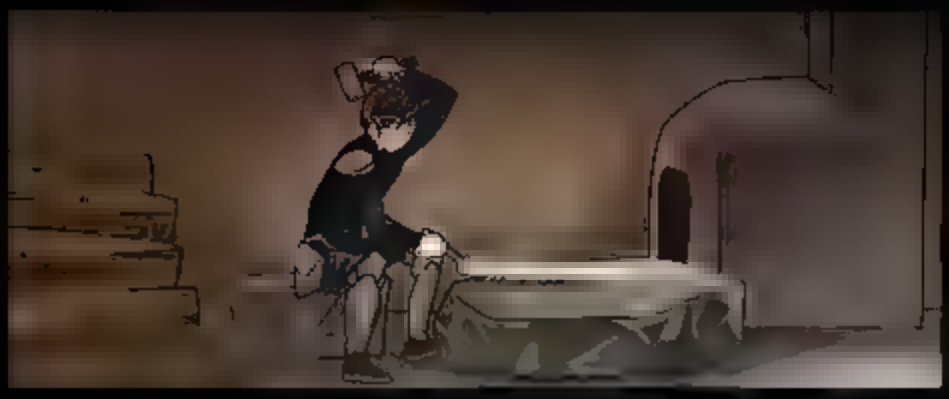




USUALLY IN GAMES,
THERE IS MANUFACTURING.

MANUFACTURING
SKILL.

IN MMORPG GAMES,
THE GAME IS NOT ALL
ABOUT KILLING AND
HUNTING THE MONSTERS.



GAME CHARACTERS MAKE SOME OF THE ITEMS FOR THEMSELVES.

AND I GET SKILLS BY SPECIFIC ACTIONS.

THAT MEANS, I CAN ASSUME THAT I MIGHT BE ABLE TO GET A MANUFACTURING SKILL.

LET'S THINK LATER.

IT'S TIME TO GET PREPARED FIRST.

I COULD DIE IF I DON'T GET READY...

AND I DON'T WANT TO DIE.

HUP!

A NEW SKILL IS CREATED
WITH A SPECIFIC ACTION.

[STRONG HIT] IS CREATED
THAT GIVES A STRONG DAMAGE.

[STRONG HIT
(ACTIVE) LV1 EXP: 0.0%]

AN ACTION TO HIT THE ENEMY HARD.
THE CRITICAL INCREASES 15%.
THE ATTACK INCREASES 50%.

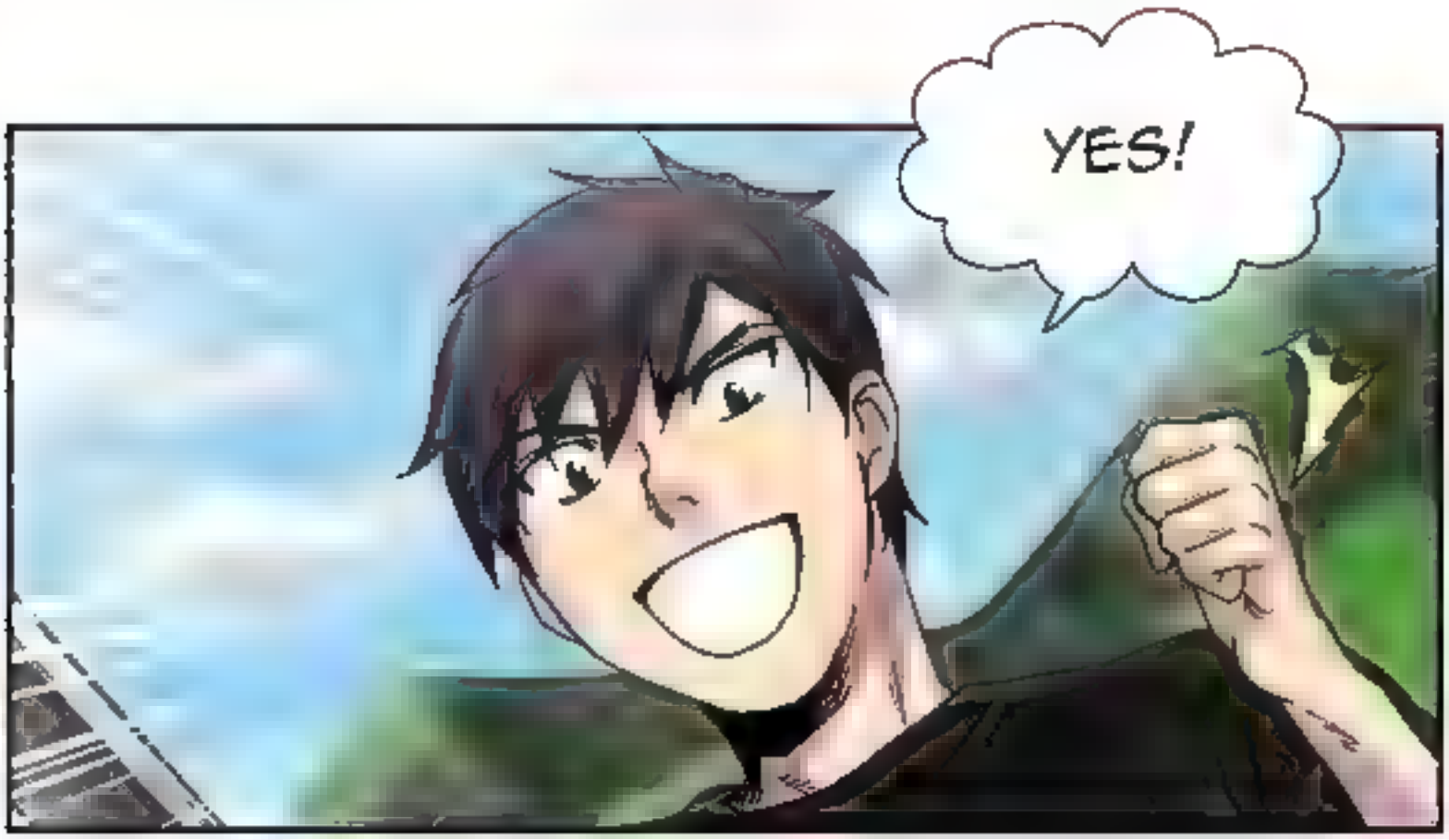
A NEW SKILL IS CREATED
WITH A SPECIFIC ACTION.

[SKILLED WEAPON] IS CREATED. YOU ARE ABLE TO SKILLFULLY USE THE BLUNT WEAPONS.

BEEP

[SKILLED WEAPON (PASSIVE) LV1 EXP: 0.0%]

A SKILL TO USE BLUNT WEAPON FREELY.
THE ATTACK INCREASES 10%
WHEN USING A BLUNT WEAPON.
THE ATTACK SPEED INCREASES 5%
WHEN USING A BLUNT WEAPON.



IT WAS WORTH COMING ALL THE WAY HERE AND DO STUFF!

I GOT 2 SKILLS, [SKILLED WEAPON] AND [STRONG HIT].

OK.

SWOOP

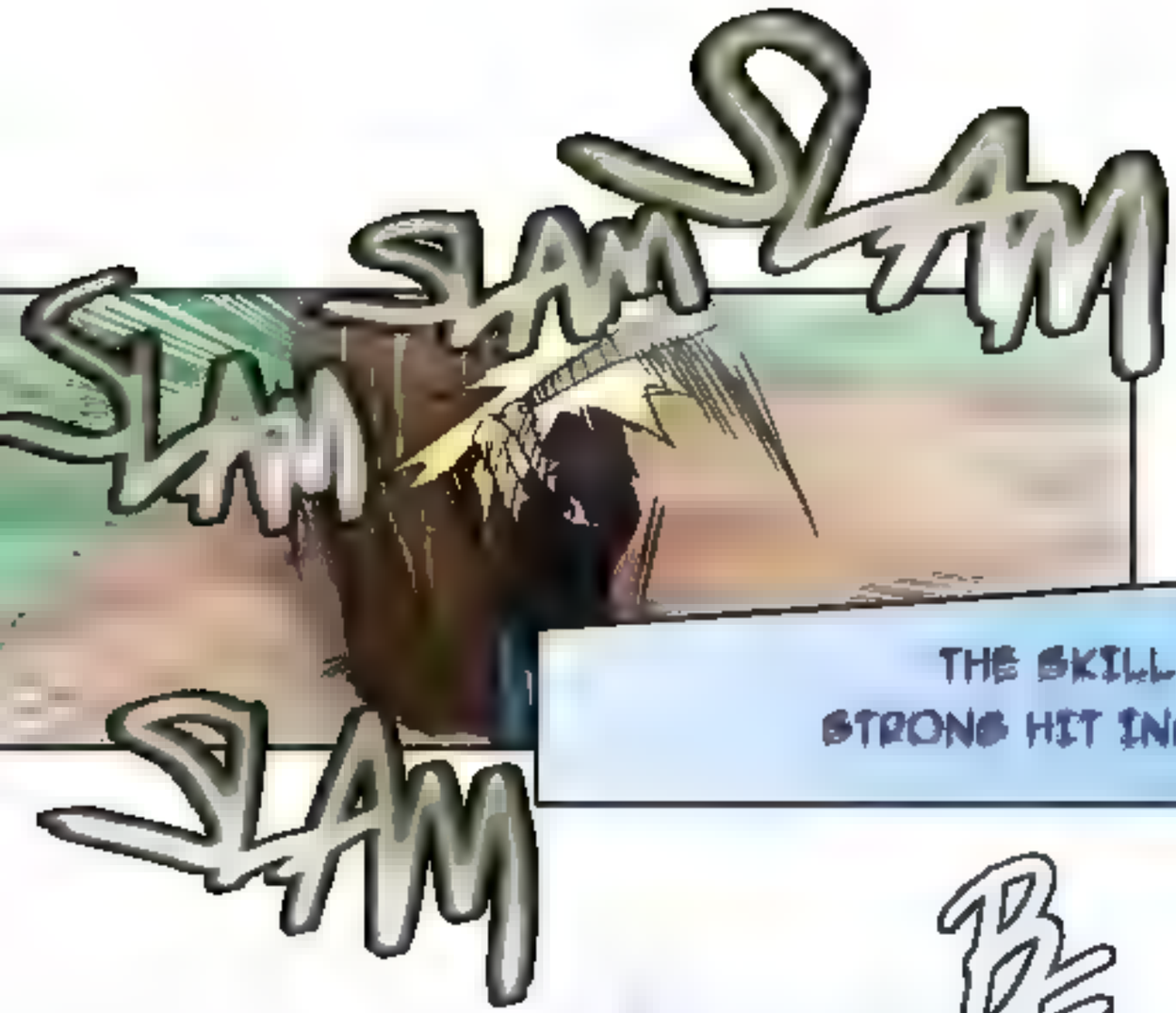
NOW THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO.

GRAB

REPE.
TI.
TION!

STRONG HIT!
BHAT

SWAN
KRAK

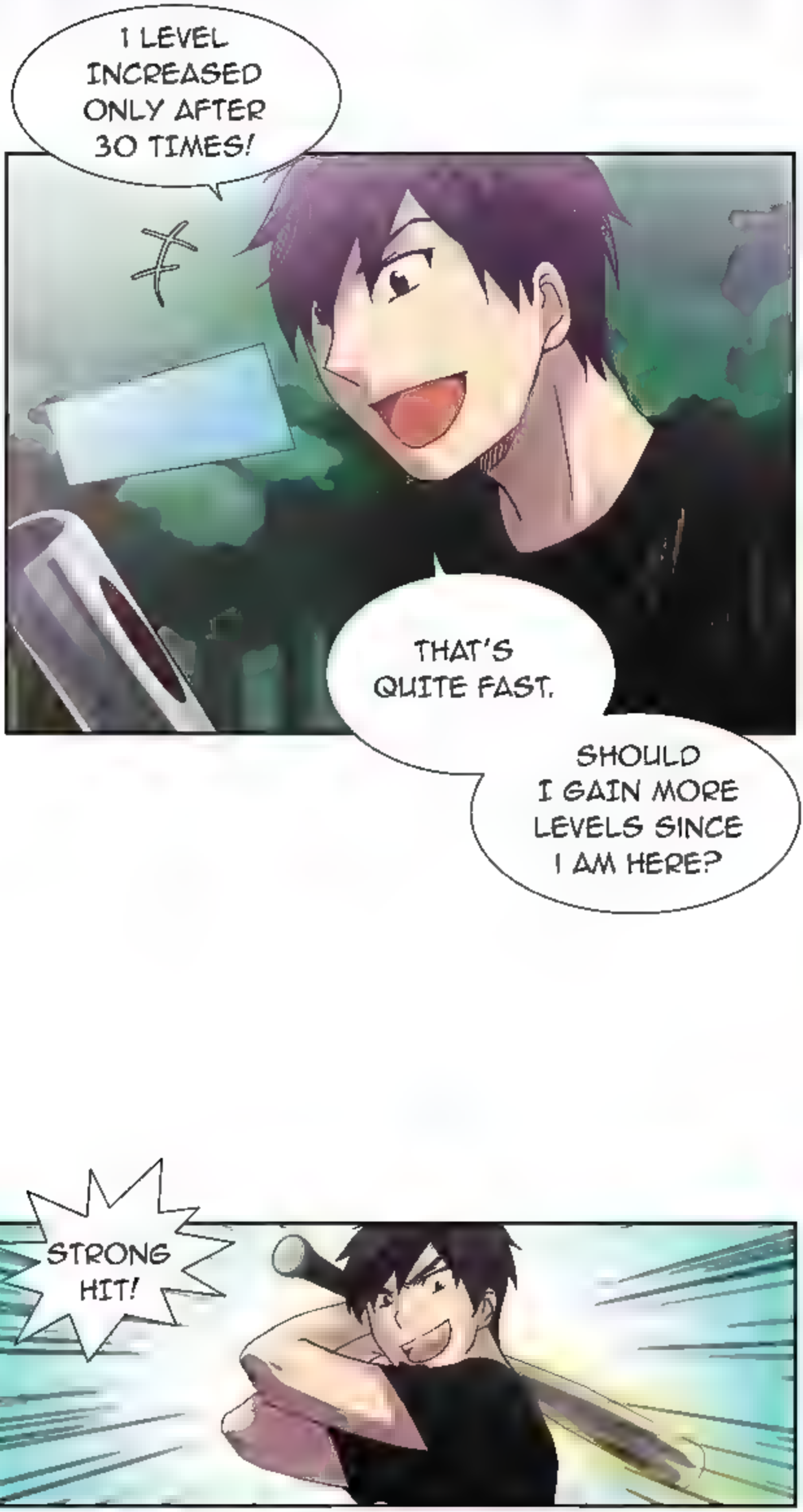


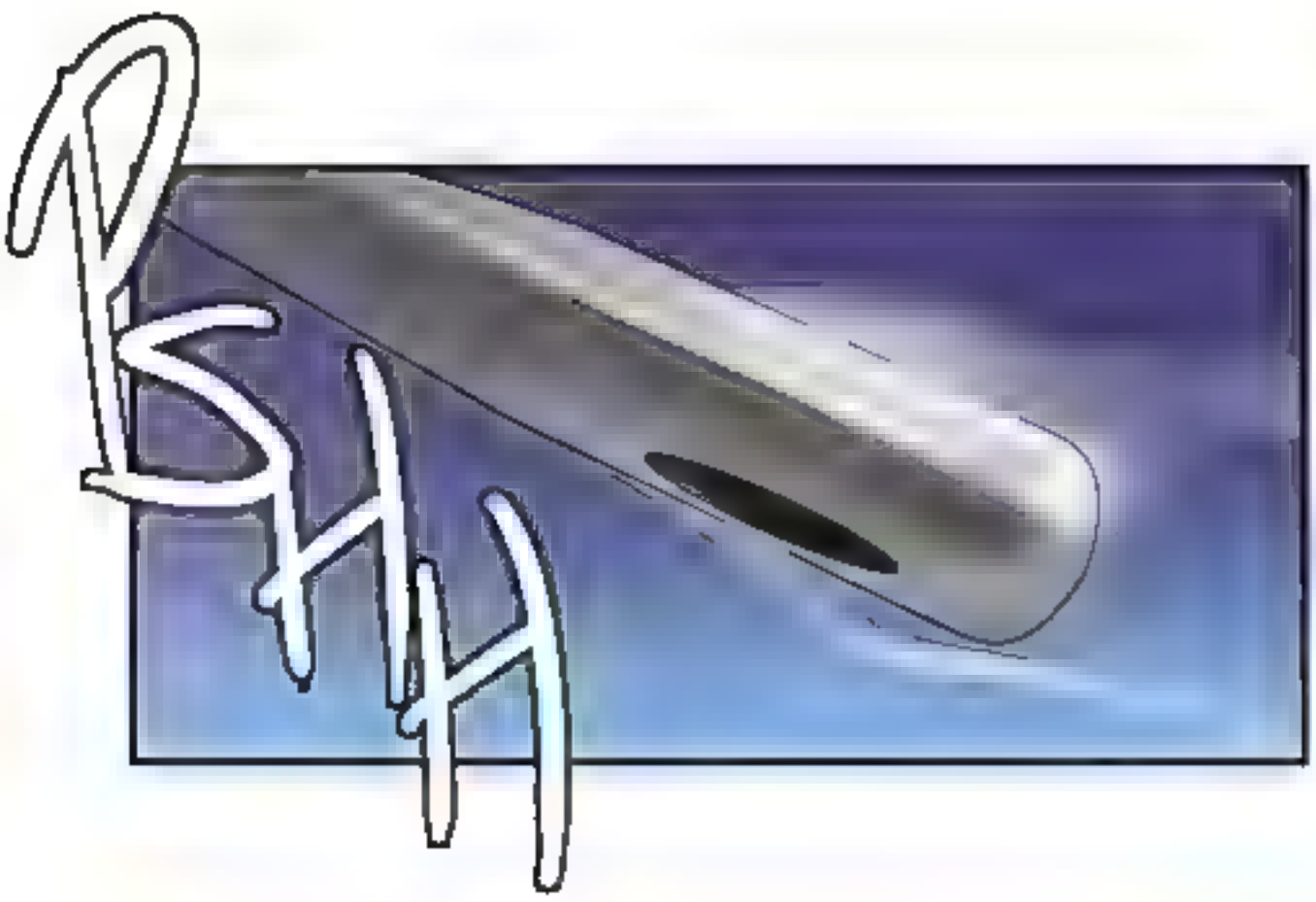
BEEP

THE SKILL OF
STRONG HIT INCREASED

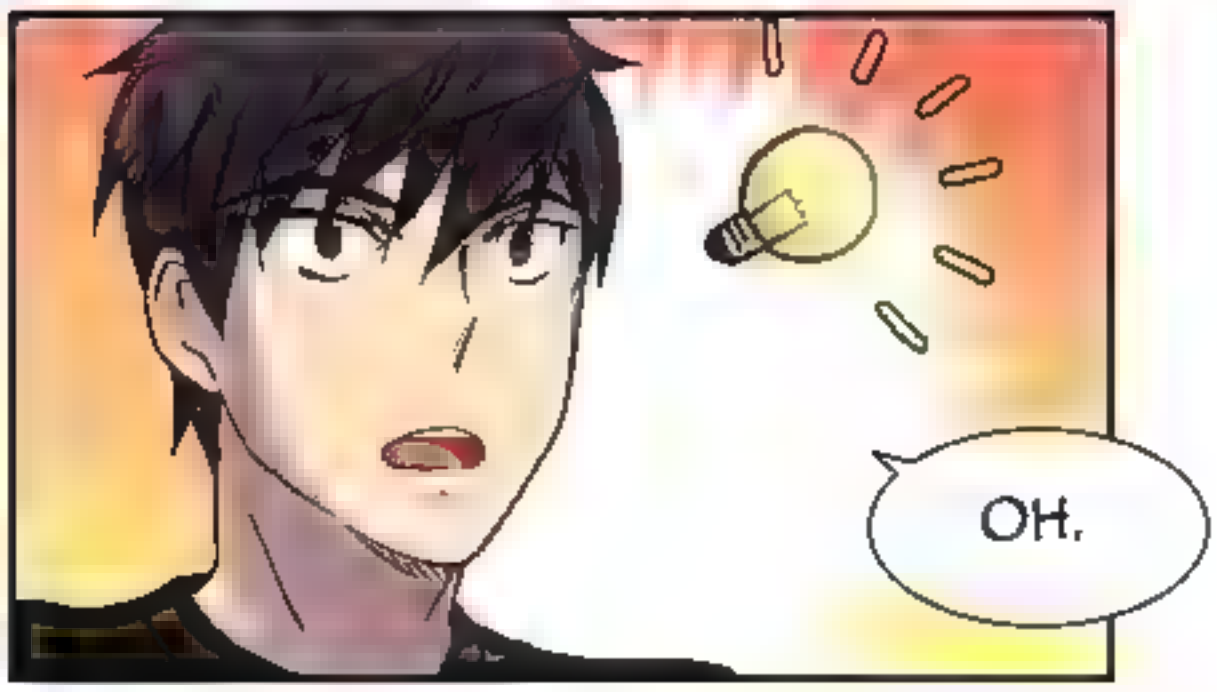
BEEP

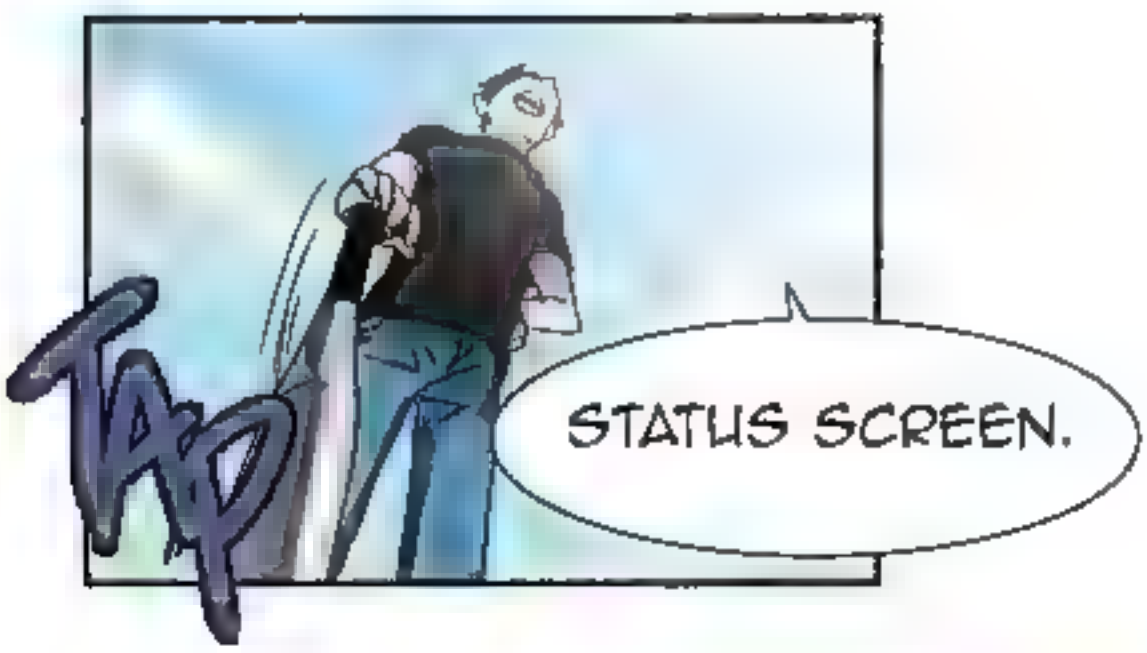
THE LEVEL OF
STRONG HIT INCREASED

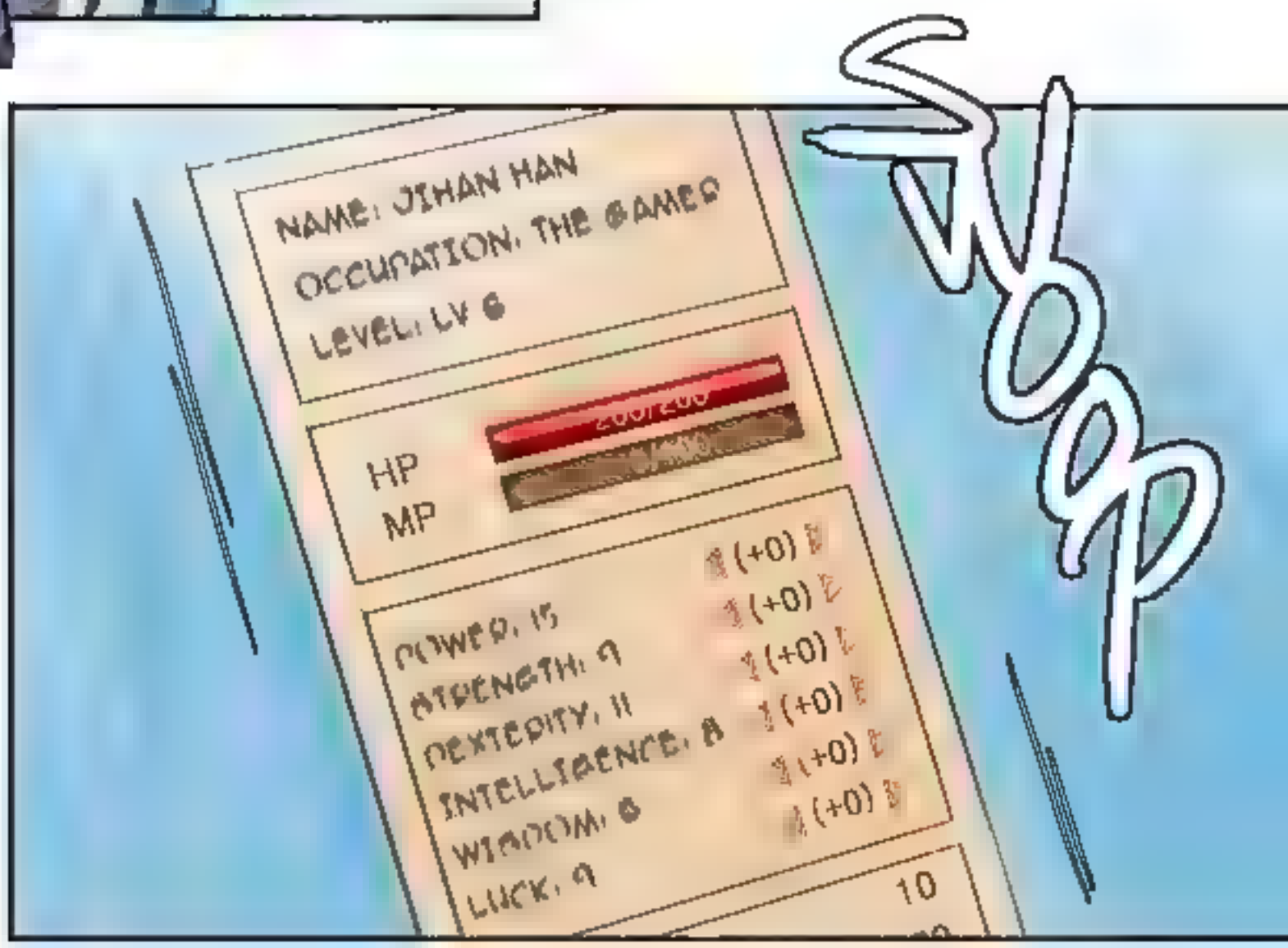

1 LEVEL INCREASED ONLY AFTER 30 TIMES!
THAT'S QUITE FAST.
SHOULD I GAIN MORE LEVELS SINCE I AM HERE?
STRONG HIT!


PSHH

HUH?
WHAT'S WRONG?
PSHH


OH.


TAP!
STATUS SCREEN.


NAME: JIHAN HAN
OCCUPATION: THE GAMER
LEVEL: LV 6
HP
MP
POWER: 15
STRENGTH: 9
DEXTERITY: 11
INTELLIGENCE: 8
WISDOM: 6
LUCK: 9
10
SLOOP

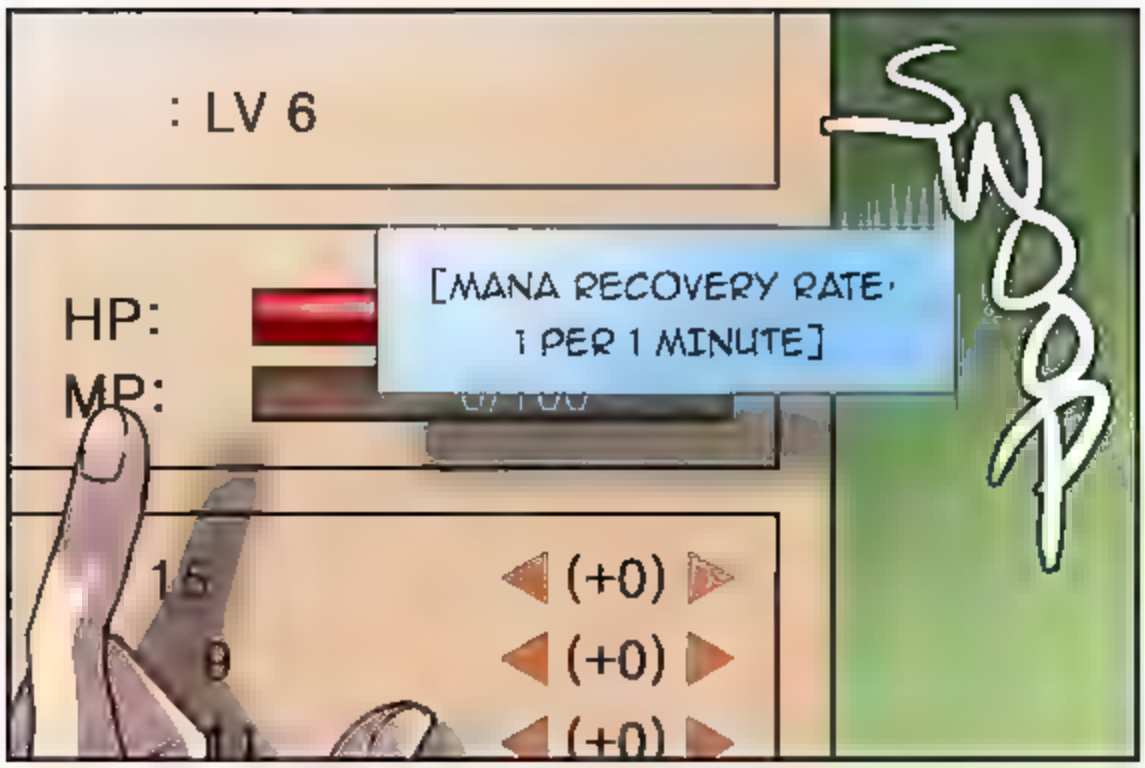
I KNEW IT.
I NEED
MORE MP.

I GUESS I CAN
USE THE SKILLS
ABOUT 30
TIMES.

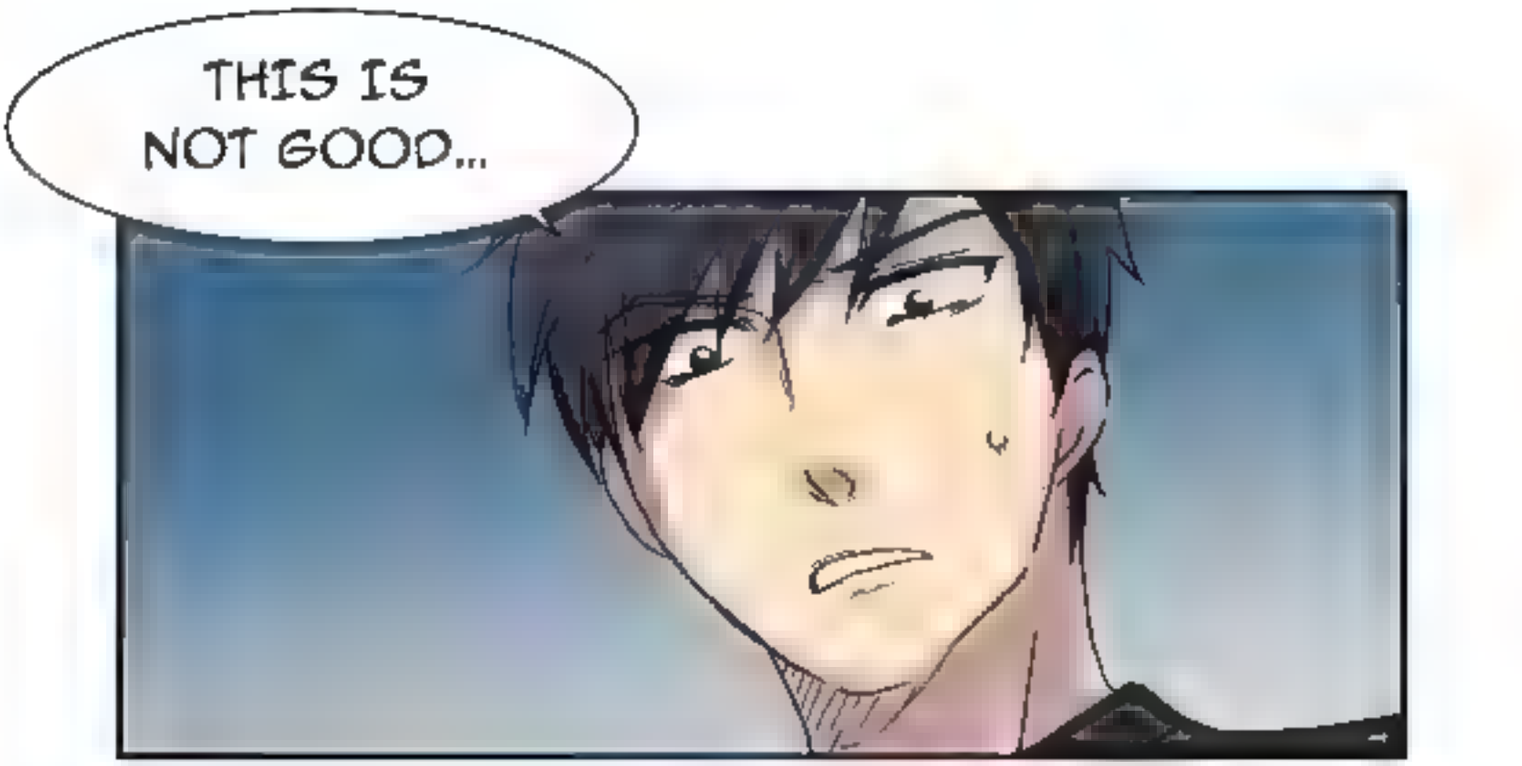
LET'S SEE.
HOW FAST
DOES THE MP
RECOVERS...

I NEED MP
TO USE SKILL.

MP IS THE SHORT TERM
FOR MANA POINT AND
IT'S LIKE THE ENERGY
TO USE SKILLS.


: LV 6
HP:
MP:
[MANA RECOVERY RATE: 1 PER 1 MINUTE]
SWOOP
16
8
11
(+0)
(+0)
(+0)

1 PER A MINUTE...?
MY MANA IS 100, SO TO BE FULL, I HAVE TO WAIT 100 MINUTES?



SHOULD I INCREASE THE RECOVERY RATE,

OR I SHOULD GAIN PASSIVE SKILLS RATHER THAN ATTACKING SKILLS?

WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO TO SURVIVE?
HAVE TO BE STRONGER TO SURVIVE.

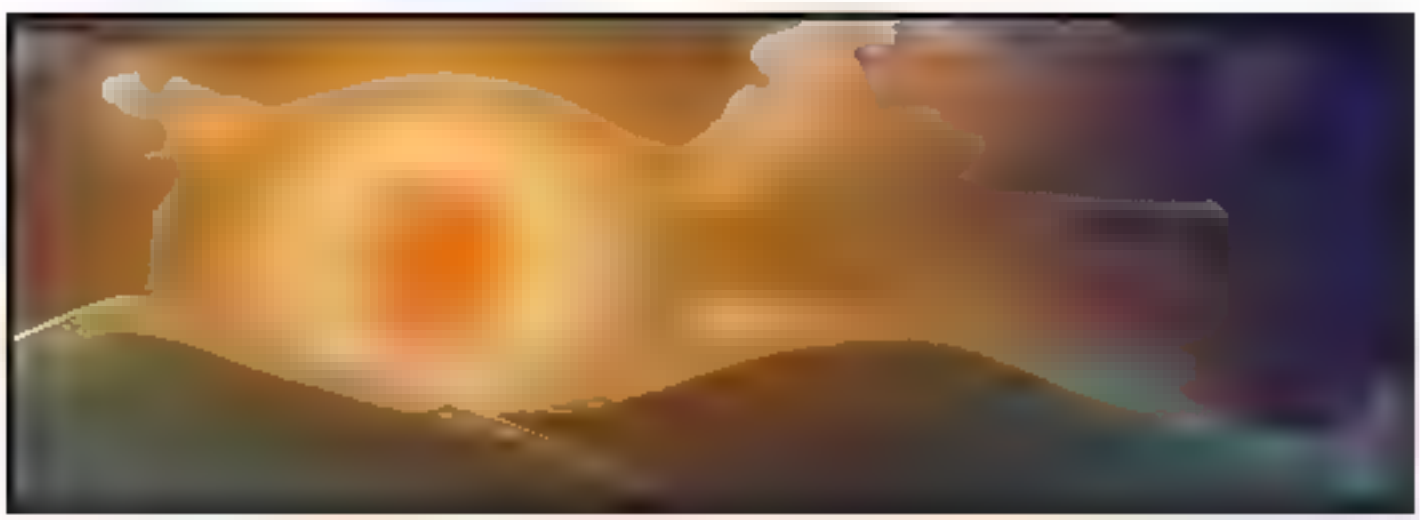
THE GAMER

STORY BY SANGYOUNG SEONG
ILLUST BY SANG-A

LINE Webtoon

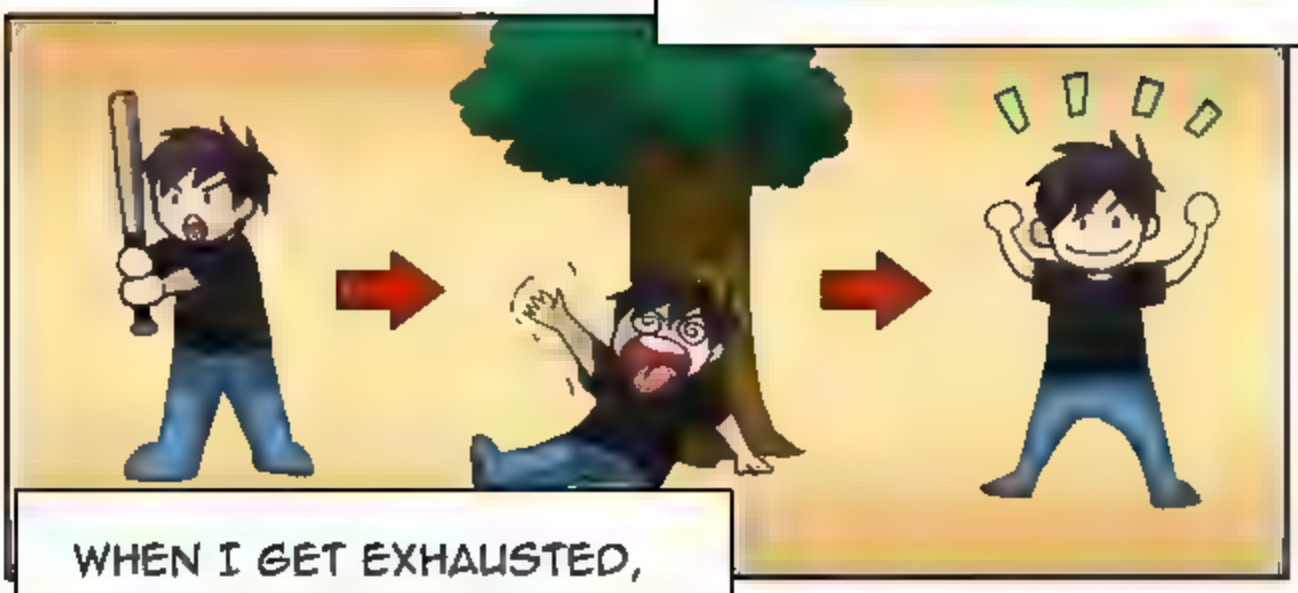
THE GAMER

STORY BY SANGYOUNG SEONG
ILLUST BY SANG-A



TAP
SSH
I'VE BEEN PRACTICING ALL DAY...

BUT IS IT BECAUSE MY BODY HAS CHANGED LIKE A GAME CHARACTER'S?



WHEN I GET EXHAUSTED, I ONLY NEED A 30 MIN BREAK BEFORE GETTING ABLE TO PRACTICE AGAIN.

SO I WAS ABLE TO INCREASE SOME OF MY SKILL LEVELS.

GRIN

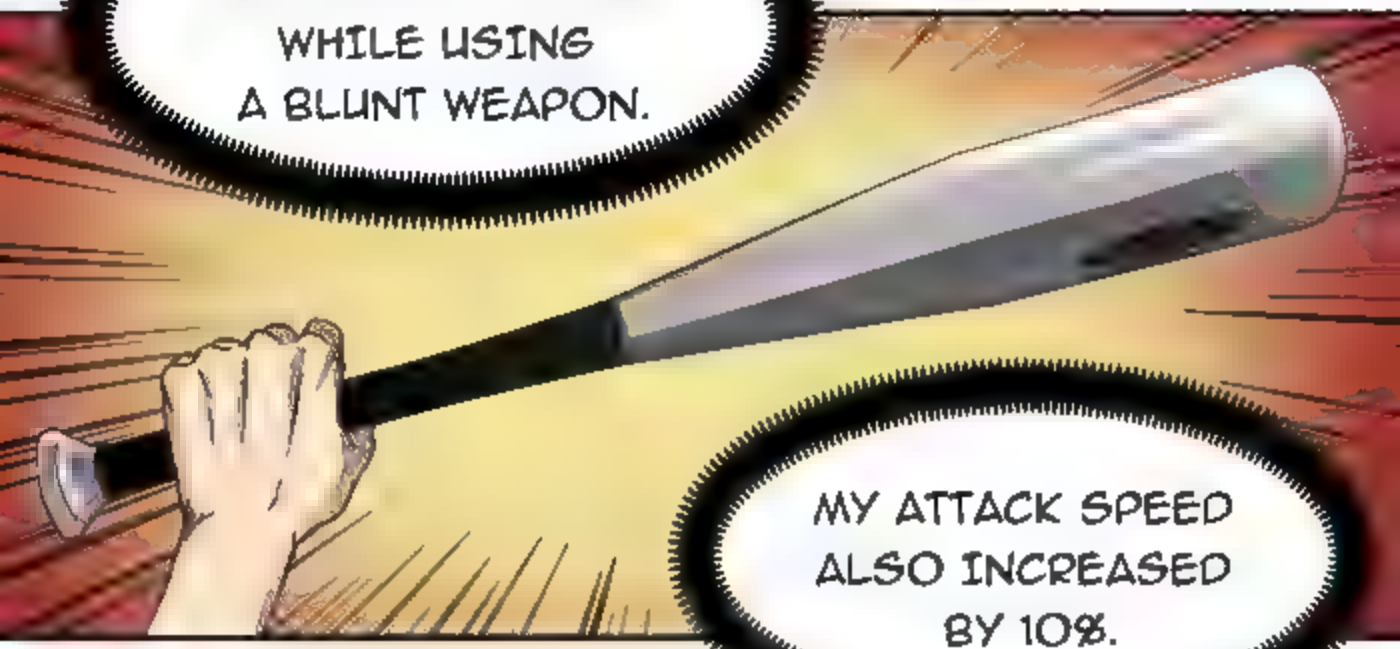
NOW
MY LEVELS ARE...
CRITICAL HIT LV 3.

WEAPON SKILLS
ARE LV 5.

THEY'RE
INCREASING
QUITE FAST.

MOST OF ALL,
I LOVE THE ABILITY I GOT
WHEN MY WEAPON SKILLS
LEVEL INCREASED
TO LV 5.

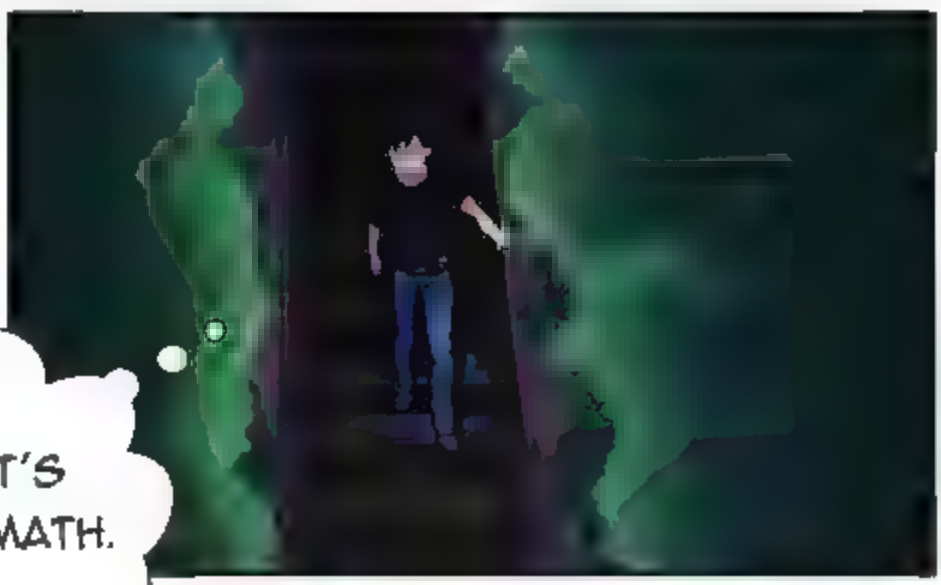
MY ATTACK
INCREASED BY 30%
WHILE USING
A BLUNT WEAPON.



MY ATTACK SPEED
ALSO INCREASED
BY 10%.

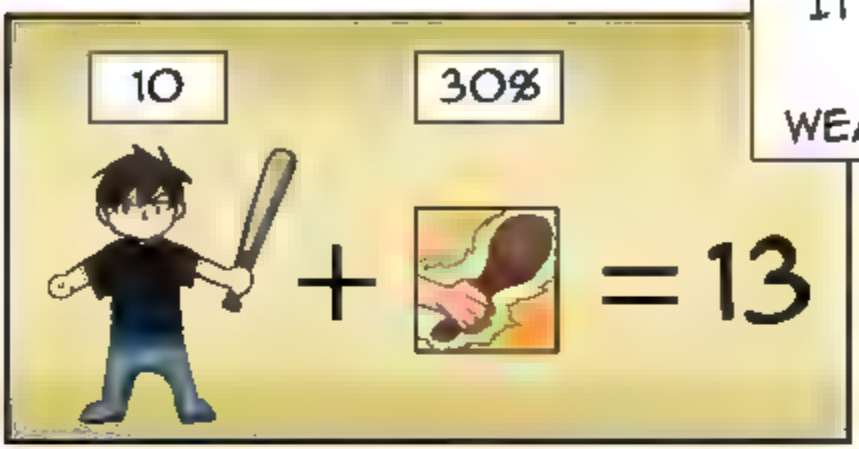
AS MY 'STRONG HIT' LEVEL INCREASED TO LV 3, MY CRITICAL DAMAGE SKILL INCREASED BY 150%,

AND MY CRITICAL DAMAGE SKILLS INCREASED BY 17%



SO LET'S DO THE MATH.

LET'S SAY MY ATTACK POWER IS 10, IT BECOMES 13 WITH MY WEAPON SKILLS.



IF I DO A STRONG HIT, 150% MORE DAMAGE IS ADDED SO THE TOTAL DAMAGE I INFLICT WILL BE 32.5.

IT MEANS I CAN
CAUSE MUCH MORE
DAMAGE COMPARED TO
MY ATTACK POWER.
ISN'T THAT AMAZING?

I'M SAVING
MY STATUS POINTS NOW,

AND IF I USE THEM
TO INCREASE MY POWER,
MY OVERALL ATTACK
WILL BE MUCH STRONGER.

MY MP IS 100 NOW.
THAT'S ONLY ENOUGH FOR 30 STRONG HITS,
AND

HP:

MP:

MY STRENGTH ALSO ISN'T HIGH ENOUGH.

A 30 MIN. BREAK IS ALL I NEED TO PULL UP MY HP,

BUT STILL... MY STAMINA IS NOT AS GOOD AS IT NEEDS TO BE.

WHAT IF THERE ARE TOO MANY ENEMIES? WHAT IF THERE IS NO TIME FOR A BREAK?

WHAT IF ENEMIES ARE TOO FAST? SHOULDN'T I INCREASE MY AGILITY?

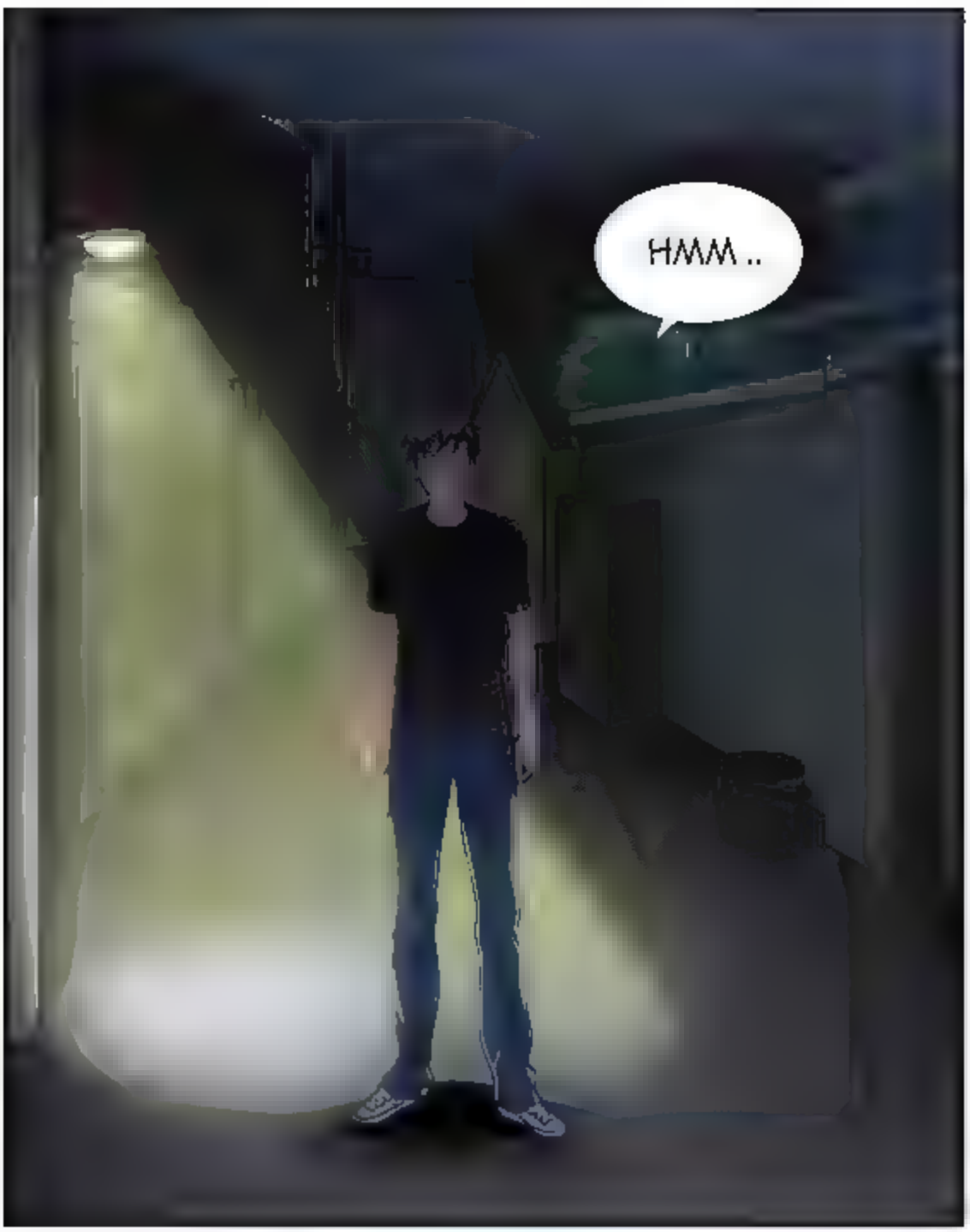
THERE ARE
TOO MANY VARIABLES
TO BE DEALT WITH.

I DON'T THINK
I SHOULD USE MY
STATUS POINTS NOW.

ANYWAYS,
MOM IS GONNA
ASK WHY I'M LATE.
WHAT SHOULD
I TELL HER?

TRAMP
TRAMP

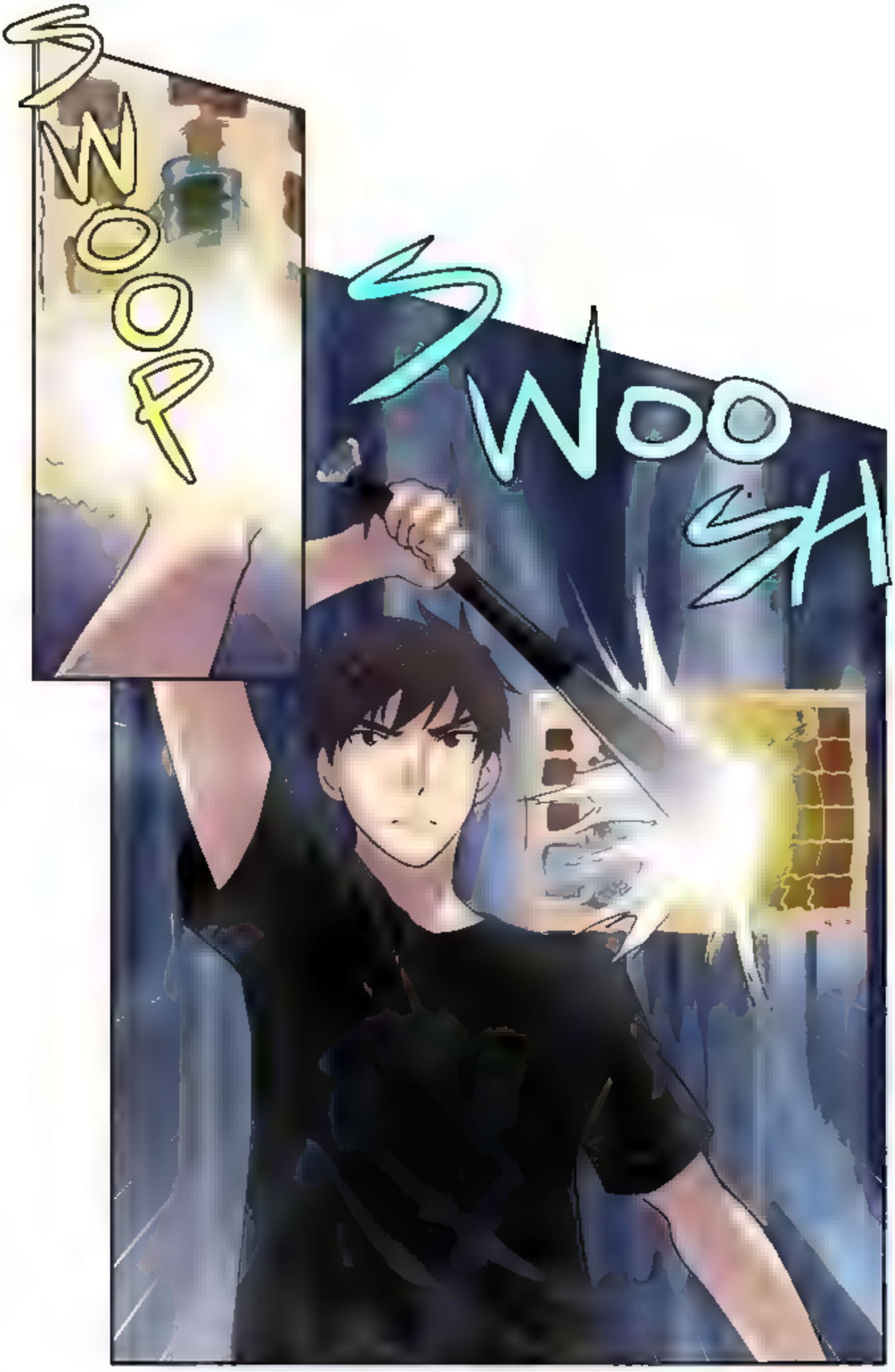
STop


HMM ..

IT'S STRANGE.

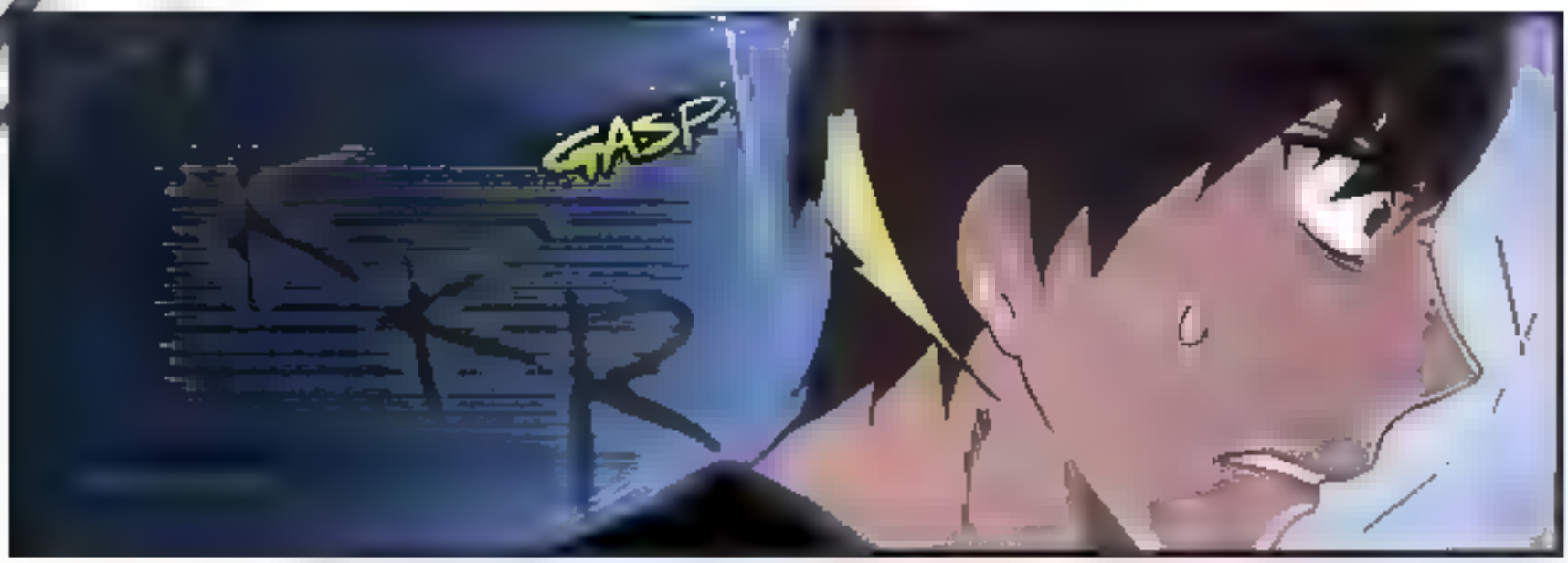
ALTHOUGH IT'S LATE AT NIGHT, THIS IS WAY TOO QUIET.

AND THERE ARE NO LIT WINDOWS.
OH, PLEASE...
CRAP!
ANOTHER PROTECTED SPACE?


SWOOP
SWOOSH

PHAT

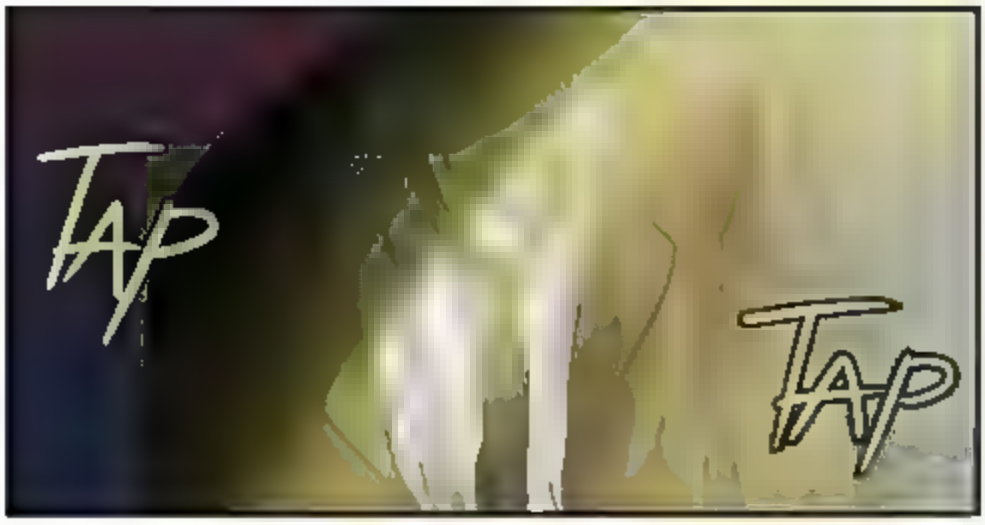
AM I IN DANGER NOW?
DAMN IT. I SHOULD HAVE PRACTICED AT HOME UNTIL I WAS READY!


GASP

Hoo—
HAA—
Hoo—

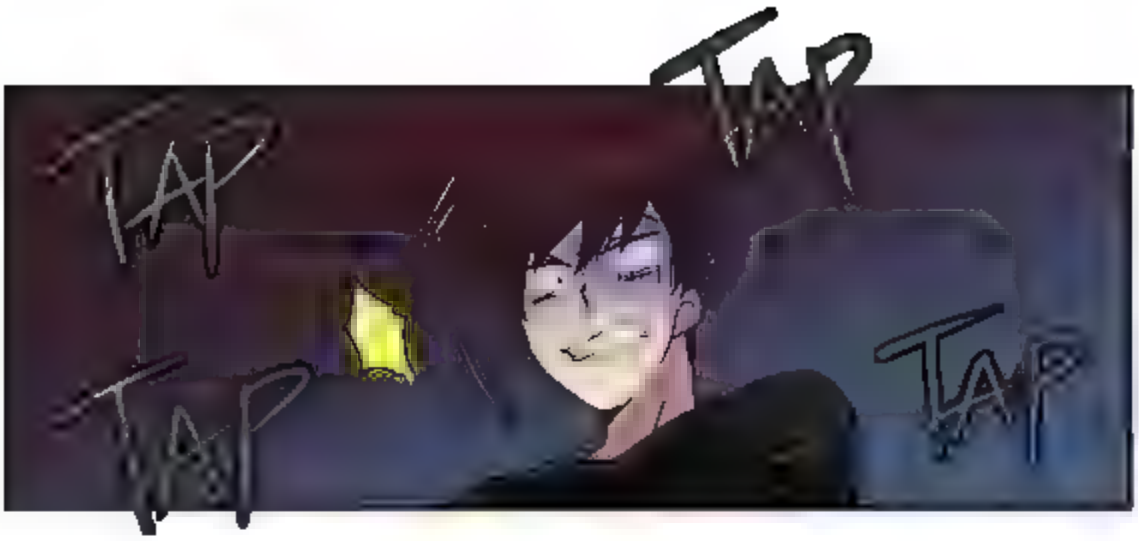
TURN

TRAMP


TAP
TAP

TRAMP

ARGH!


TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP

TRAMP
TAP
TAP

CRAP.
ZOMBIES, THIS TIME!?

THE GAMER

WHAT SHOULD I DO TO FIGHT WITH ZOMBIES?

WHAT, FIRST?

OBSERVATION!

ZOMBIE LV 8
HP: 800(800) MP: 50

A WALKING DEAD BODY.
IT HATES THE LIVING,
AND ATTACKS PEOPLE
TO EAT THEM.
ITS MOVEMENTS ARE SLOW,
BUT ITS POWER IS
TWICE AS STRONGER THAN
WHEN IT WAS ALIVE

I SEE.
STUMBLE
I'M SO GLAD I HAVE THE OBSERVATION SKILL!
I HAVE MY WEAPON THIS TIME, SO IT'S GONNA BE DIFFERENT FROM THE FIGHT WITH THAT SLIME.
I JUST WISH I HAD SOME RECOVERY ITEMS.

MY HP RECOVERY RATE IS 5 POINTS PER MINUTE.

IT'LL TAKE ABOUT 40 MIN. TO REFILL.

HP:

200/200

100/100

(+0)

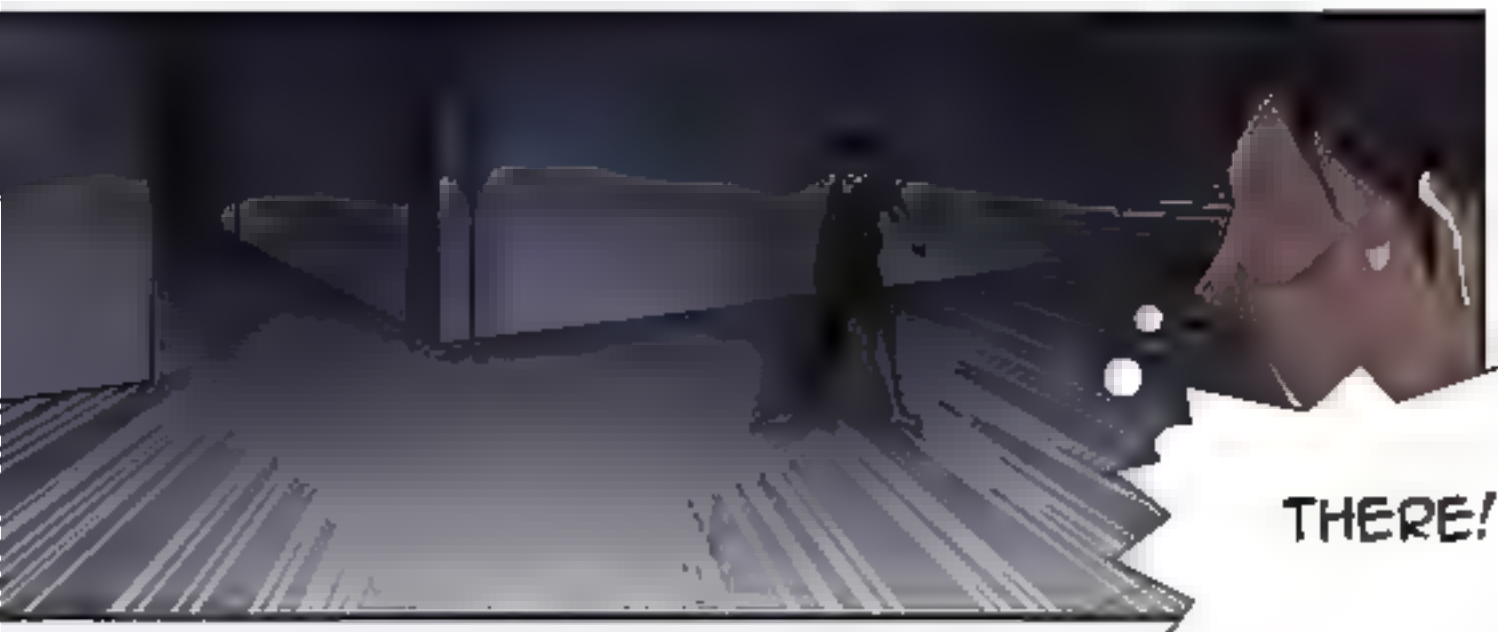
BUT ANY DAMAGE I TAKE FROM A ZOMBIE WILL BE MORE THAN 5 POINTS.

GRRR
TAP
TAP

WHAT NOW?
AH!

FIRST, FIND A NARROW HALL!

TURN

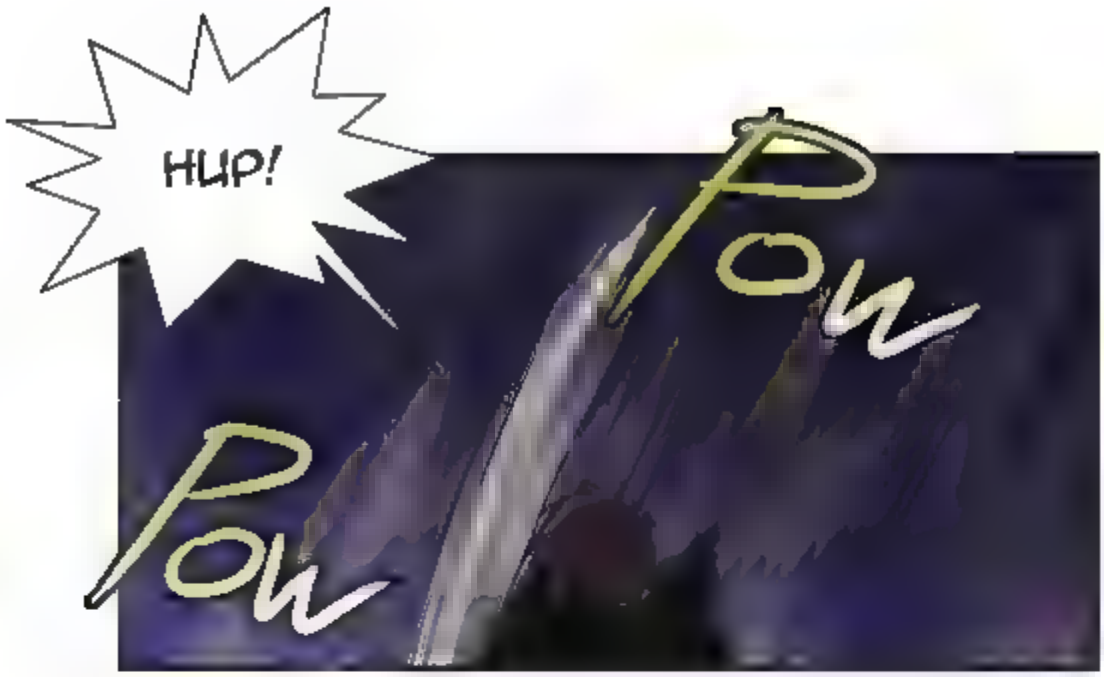


WHEN YOU FIGHT IN A GAME, YOU ALWAYS WANT TO FIND A WALL FIRST,
SO YOU CAN PROTECT YOURSELF FROM MONSTERS.
TAP
!!
GRR

GRAB

SLAM
STRONG HIT!
CRITICAL!

DROP
HP
EHH?
DID I JUST GIVE
400 DAMAGE
WITH ONE ATTACK?
IF THAT'S
THE CASE,
I CAN'T LET THIS
CHANCE GO!



I DIDN'T REALIZE I HAD BECOME SO GOOD AT USING A BAT. IS IT BECAUSE OF MY NEW SKILLS?

Slam

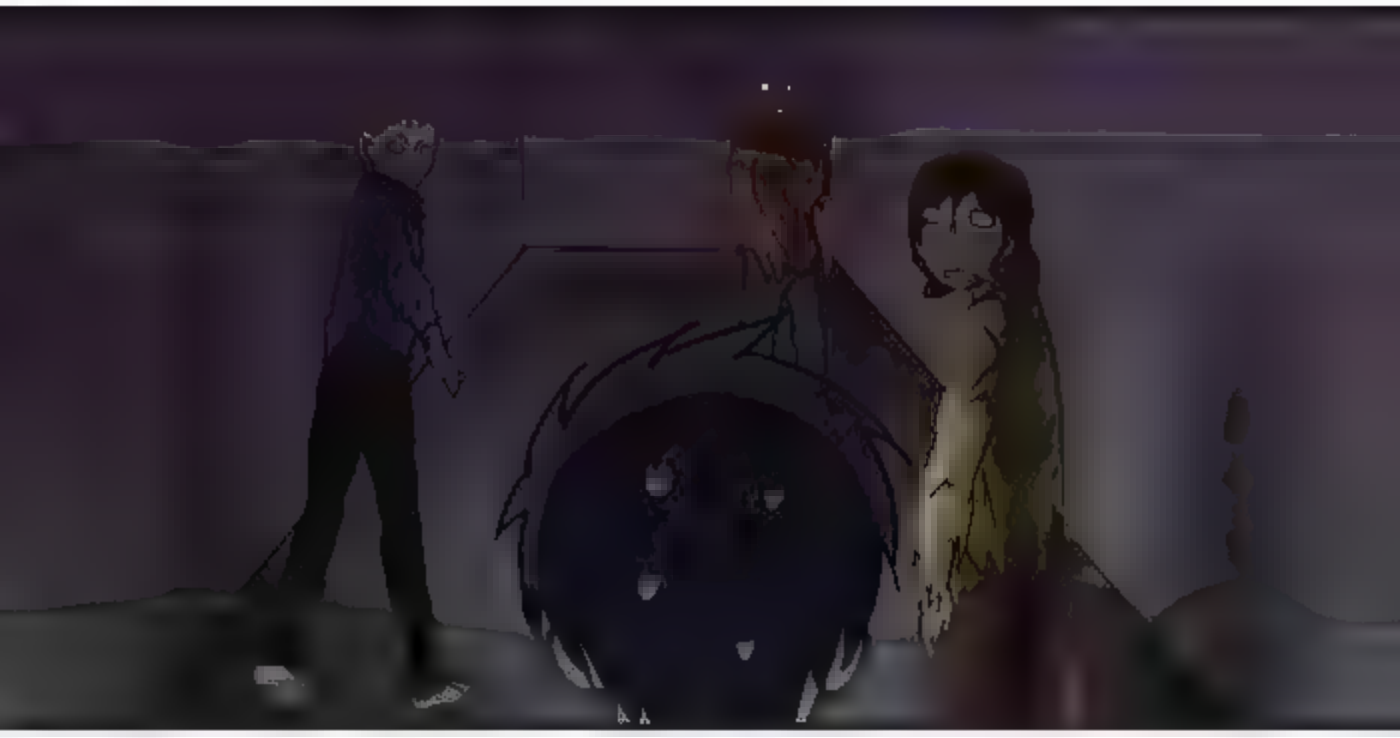
GOSH! I HAVE TO STOP THINKING RIGHT NOW!

GRRR

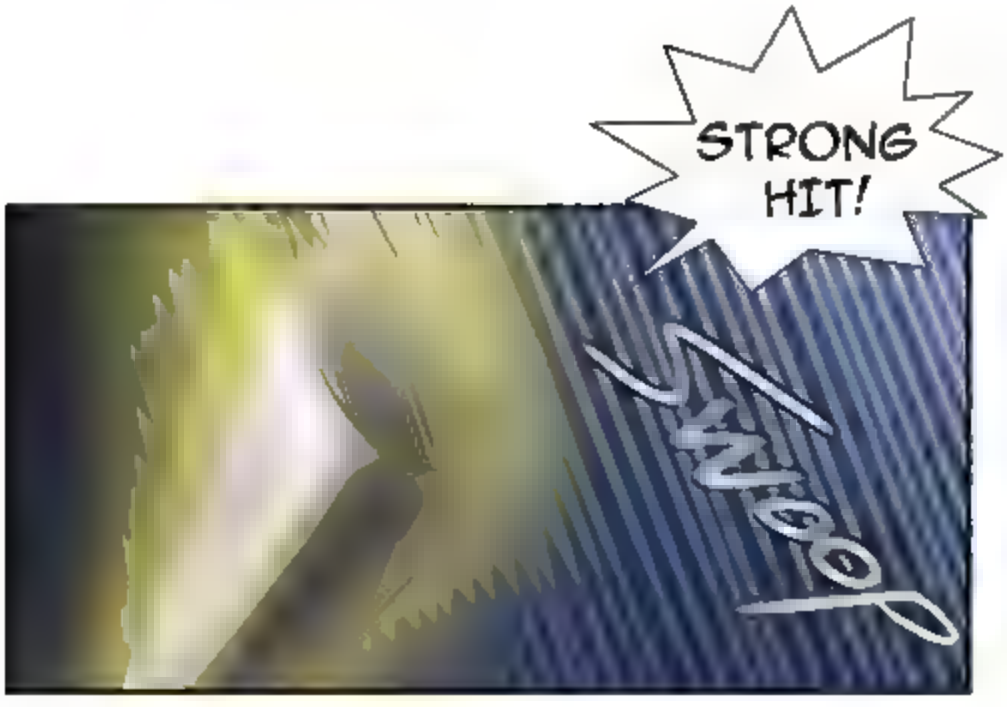
HA
BEEP

YOU'VE GOT 350 EXP. POINTS.

YOU THINK
I HAVE TIME TO
CARE ABOUT THAT!?

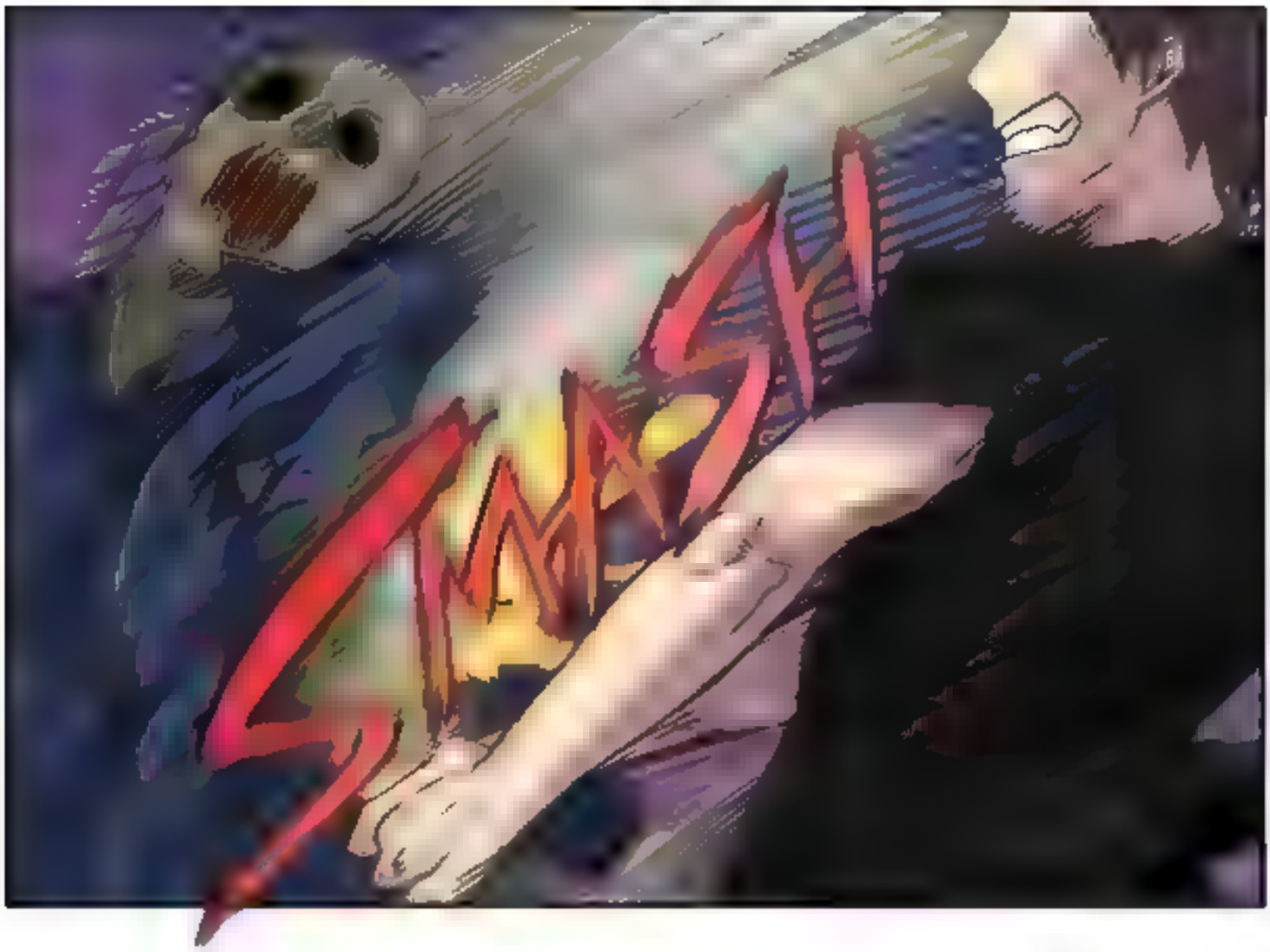


3 ZOMBIES...



DROP
SLAM
CRITICAL!

STRONG HIT!
SWOOP
STUMBLE


SMASH!

STRONG HIT!
Pow
Pow

GRRR
SHHH

SSH
PHEW...
IT'S OVER.

GRR
GRRRR

TAP
TAP

OK.
LET'S DO THIS.
GRAB

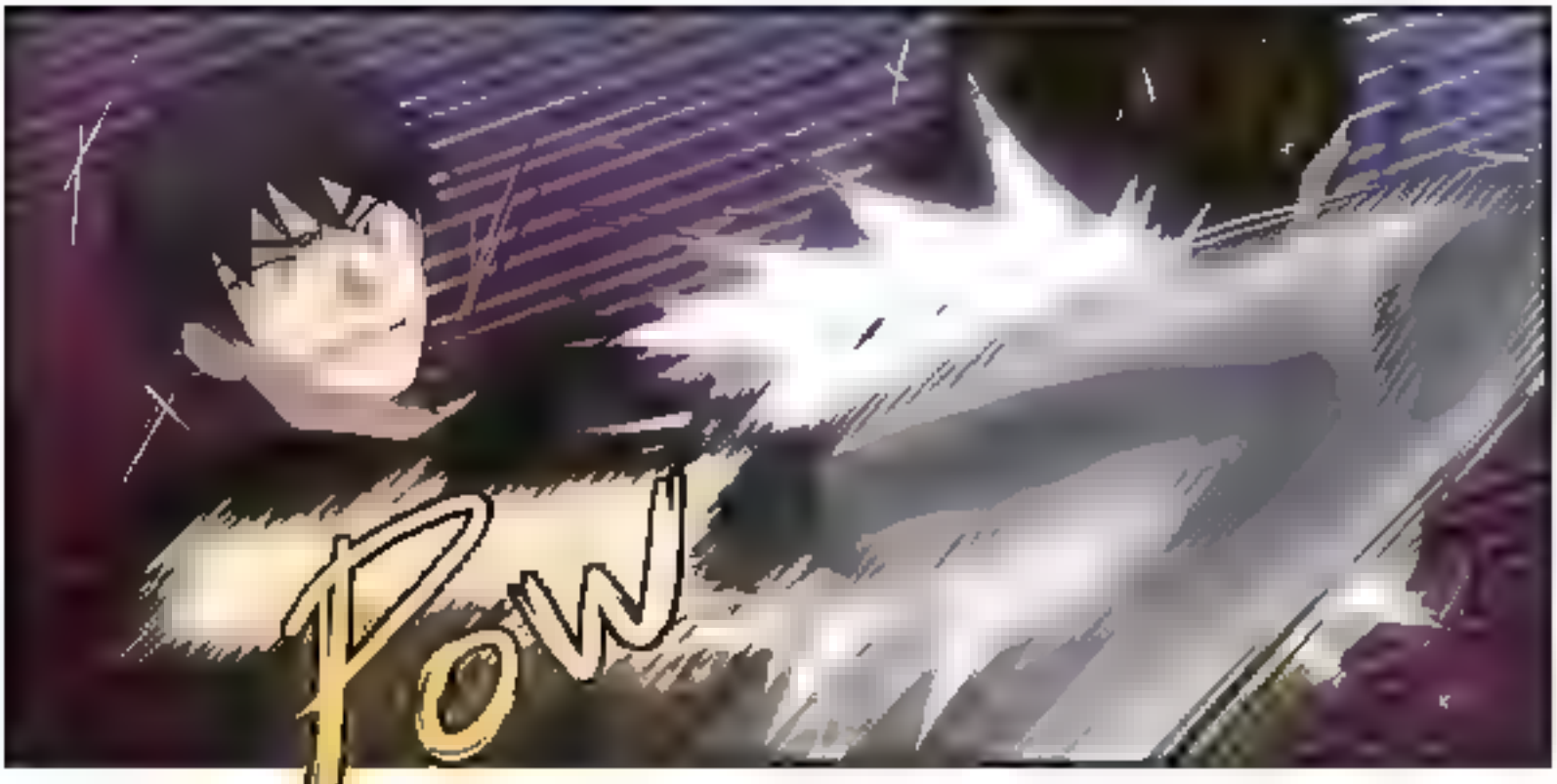
GRRRRR
DAMN.
TO SAVE MP,
SHOULD I JUST
ATTACK WITHOUT
USING MY
SKILLS?

OK!
SHAM!

SLAM

STUMBLE
SLAM
GRR

STUMBLE
TAP


POW

CLUNK

SHHHH

SIGH~
SOMEHOW,
I BEAT THEM ALL.
SO NOW WHAT...?

I DON'T THINK THERE ARE ANY ZOMBIES LEFT.

BUT, THEY COULD SHOW UP AND ATTACK AT ANY TIME.

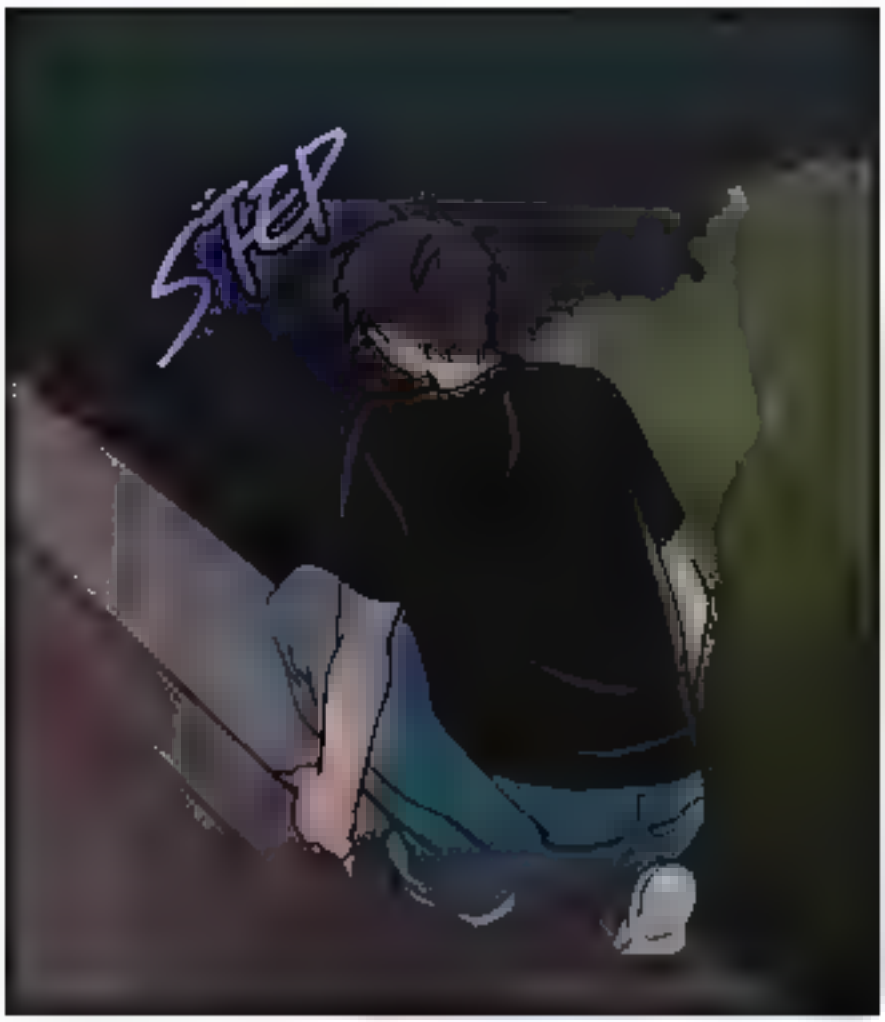
MY LEVEL ISN''T TOO BAD SO FAR.

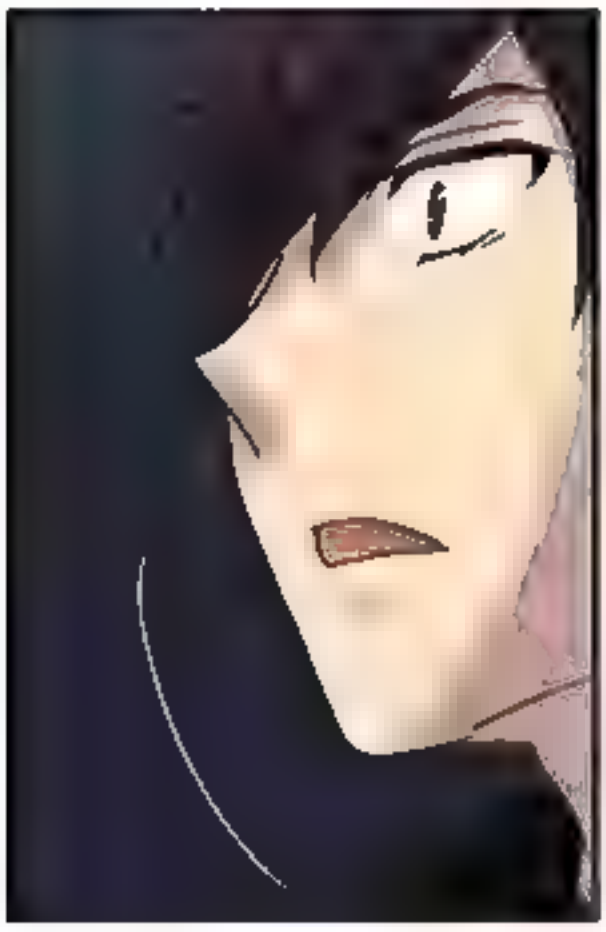
BUT, I GOT EXP. POINTS, SO KILLING THESE THINGS WILL HELP ME GET MORE EXP. POINTS.

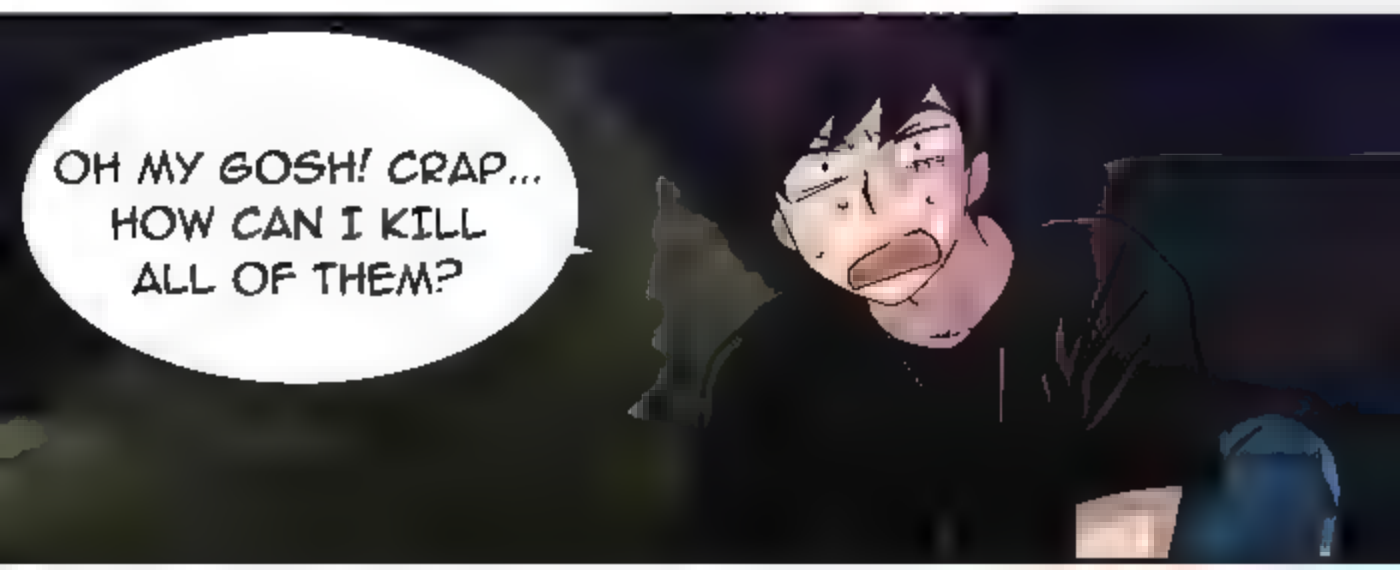
TURN
SAFETY COMES FIRST FROM NOW ON.

TAP

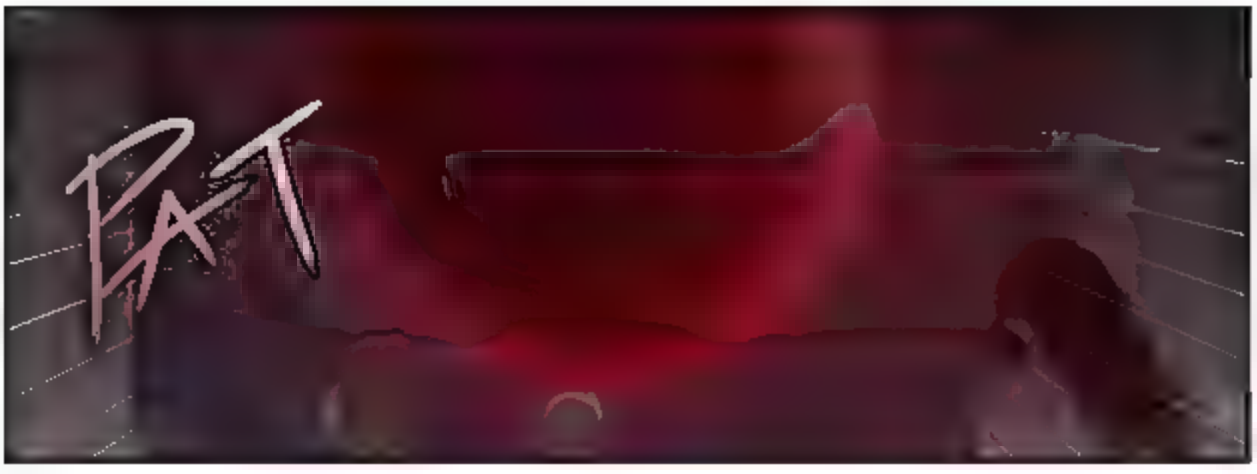
UGH.


STOP




OH MY GOSH! CRAP... HOW CAN I KILL ALL OF THEM?

FLASH


BAT

THE GAMER

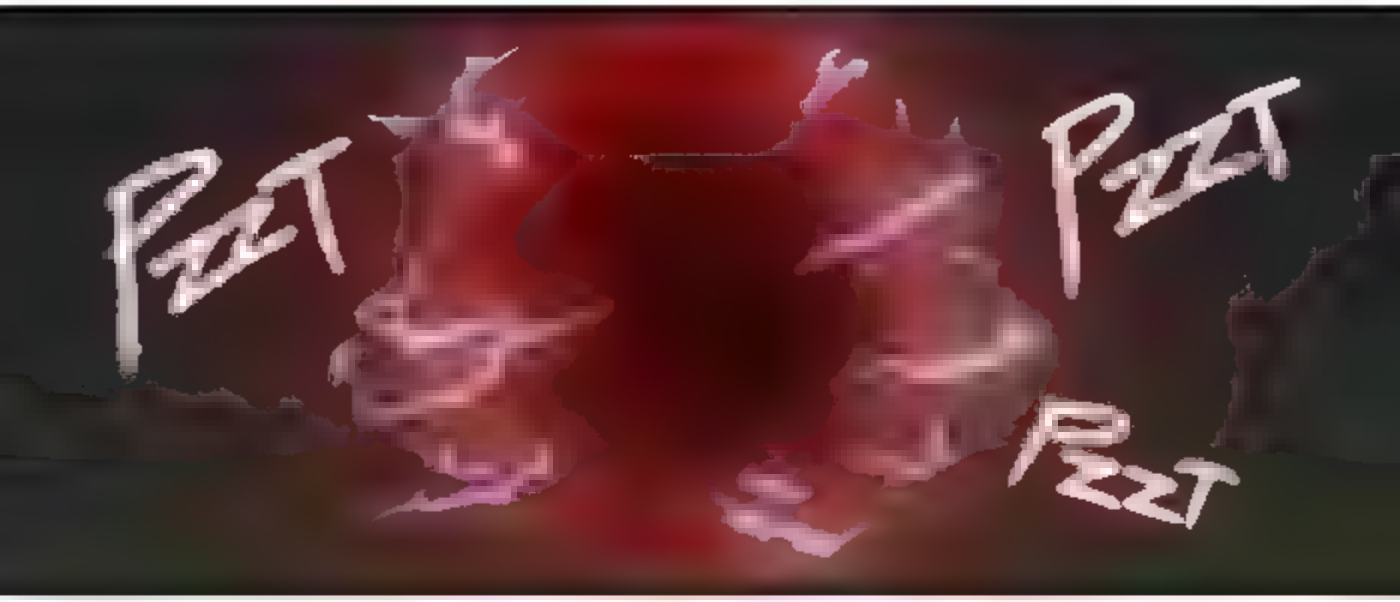
STORY BY SANGYOUNG SEONG
ILLUST BY SANG-A

LINE Webtoon

THE GAMER

STORY BY SANGYOUNG SEONG

ILLUST BY SANG-A


PZZT
PZZT
PZZT

SHIVER
IT MAKES ME SHIVER. WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?

FLASH

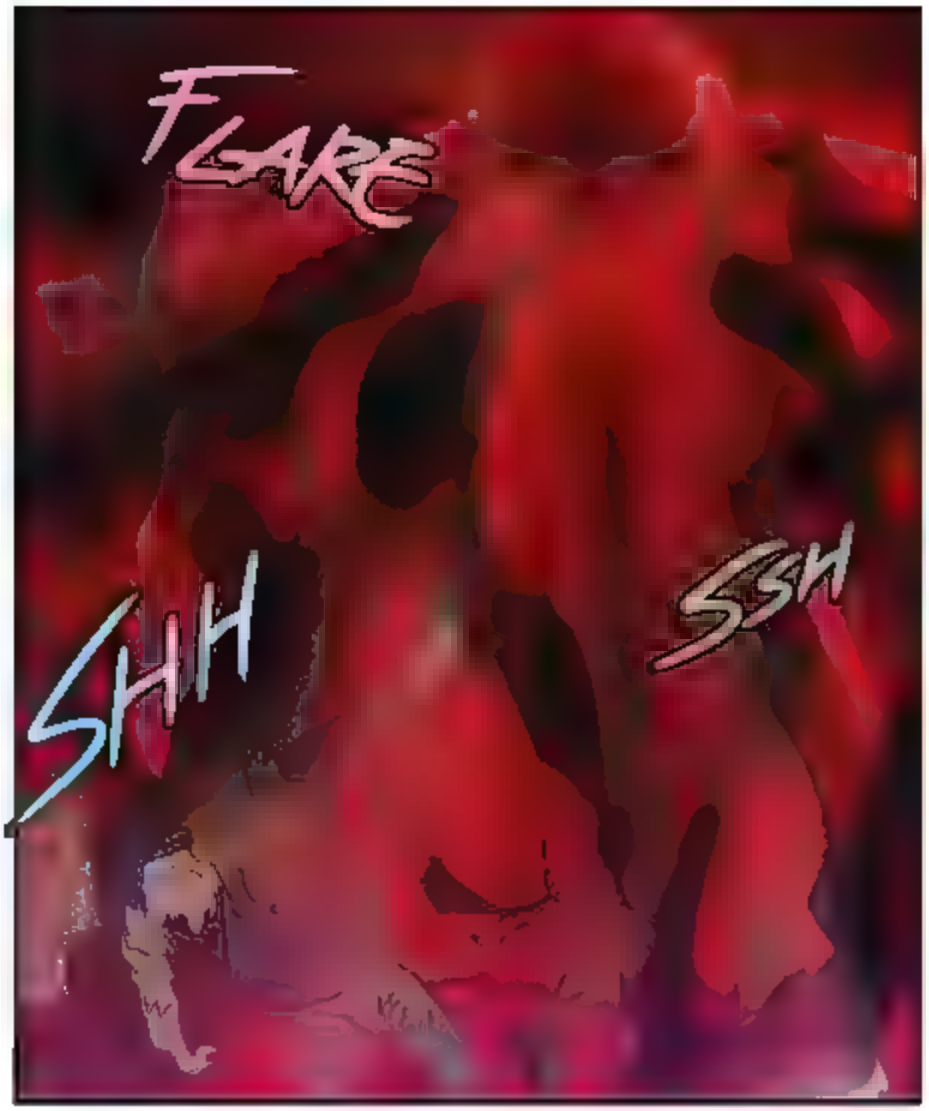
PHUT

FLARE

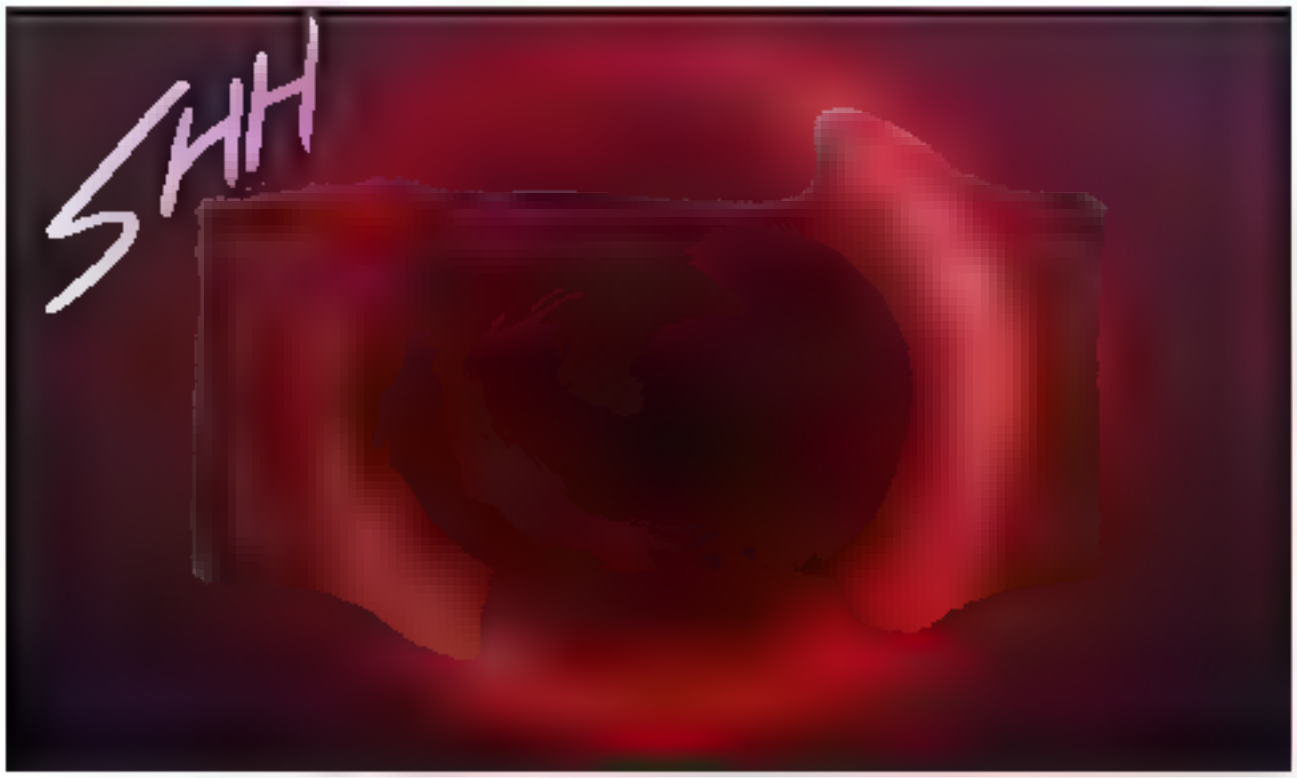
SHAAK

SSH

IS IT ABSORBING THE ZOMBIES?


FLARE
SHH
SSH

SHHH


SHH

SHH

I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS, BUT I'M PRETTY SURE IT'S NOT GOOD...

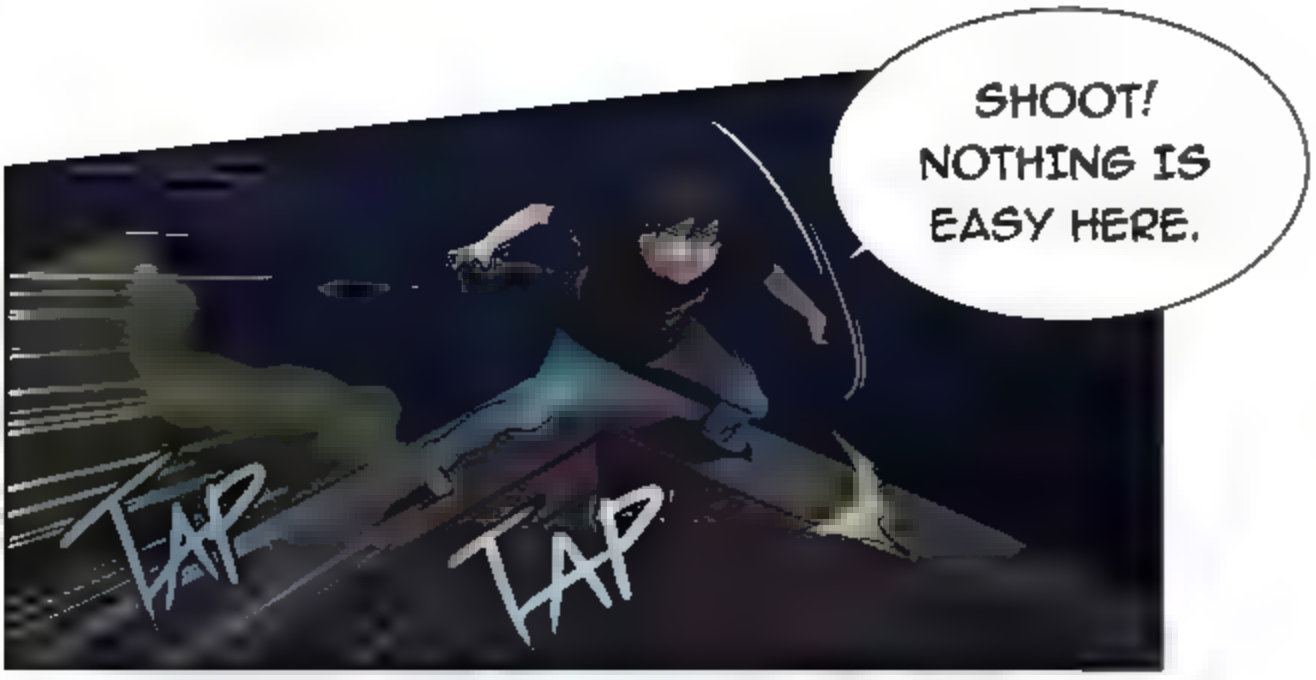
HUH?

GRRR!
GRRR!

GRR
I THINK THE RED THING IS MAKING THE ZOMBIES ANGRY...

GRRR

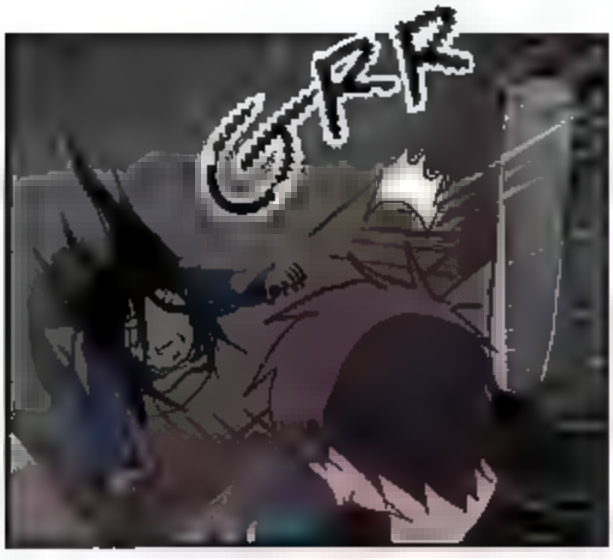
GRRR
PATTER
PITTER


SHOOT! NOTHING IS EASY HERE.
TAP
TAP

POW

PHAT

GRR


GRR

SLAM

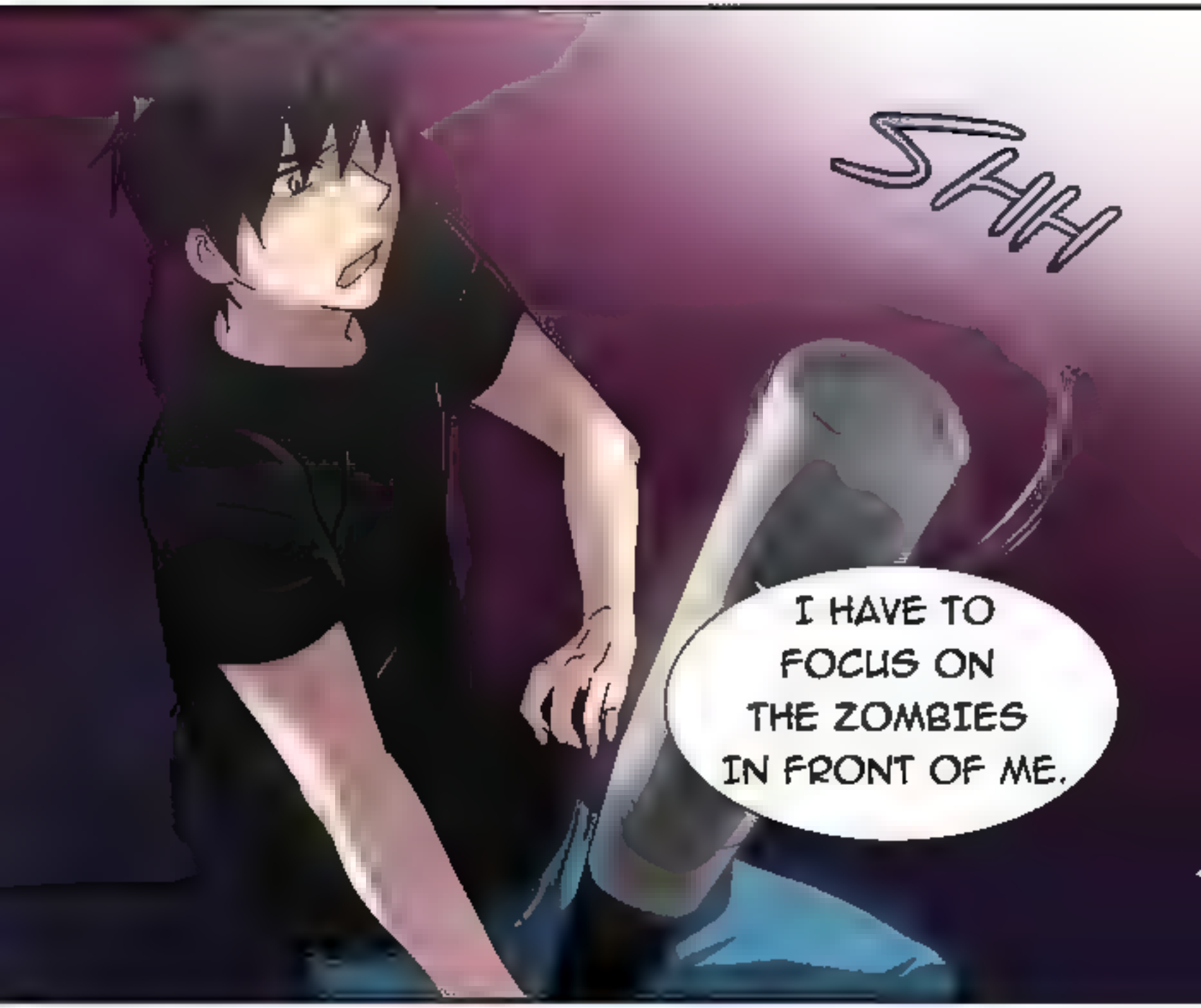
TURN
GRRRRR!

STRONG HIT.
SMASH

WAVER
TRUN
WAVER

Beep
Pop
1 LEVEL UP.

NO TIME TO CHECK THE SCREEN...

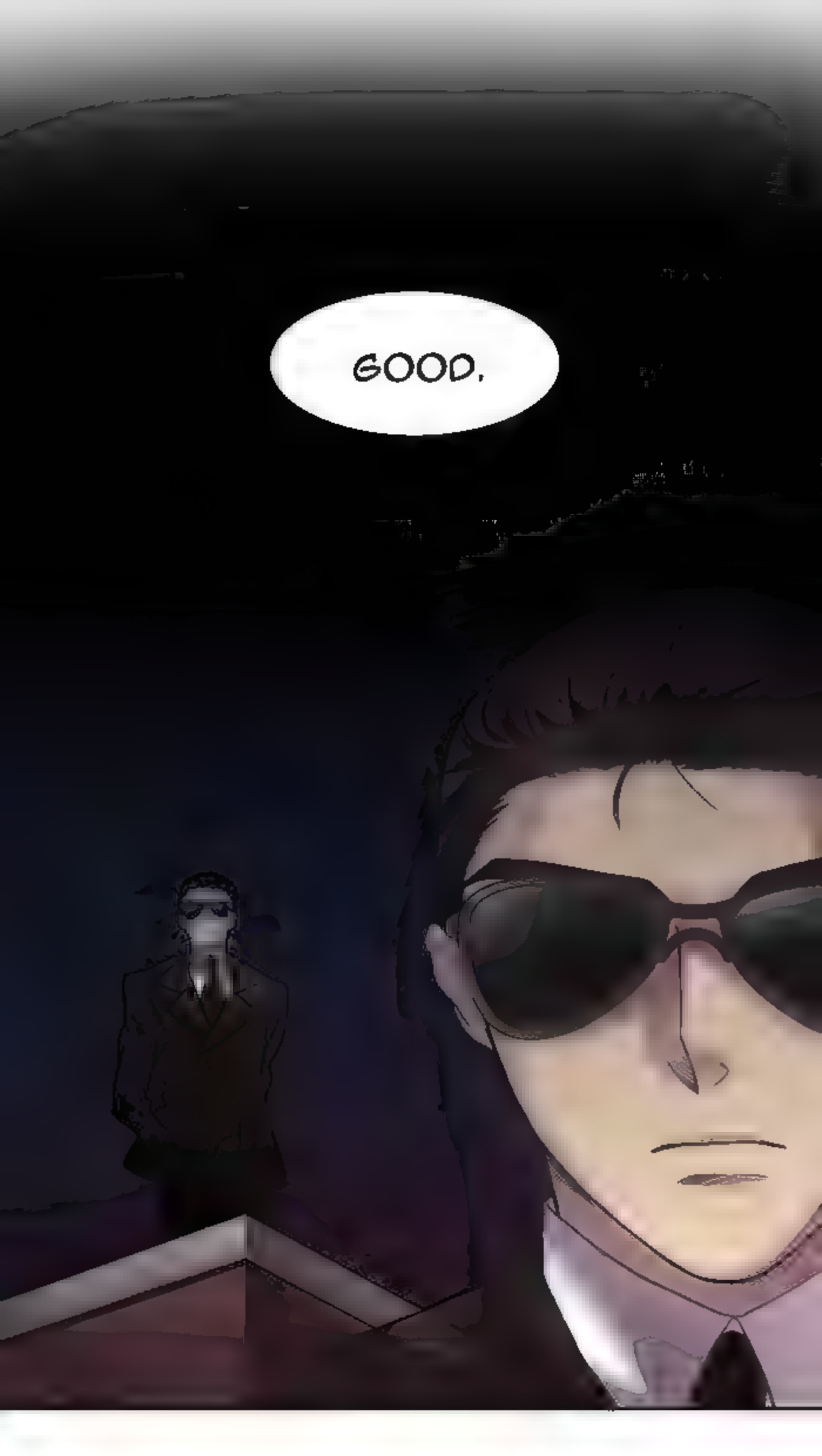

SHH
I HAVE TO FOCUS ON THE ZOMBIES IN FRONT OF ME.

SWOOP!

SWOOP

SSH

DID IT ABSORB ALL OF THEM?

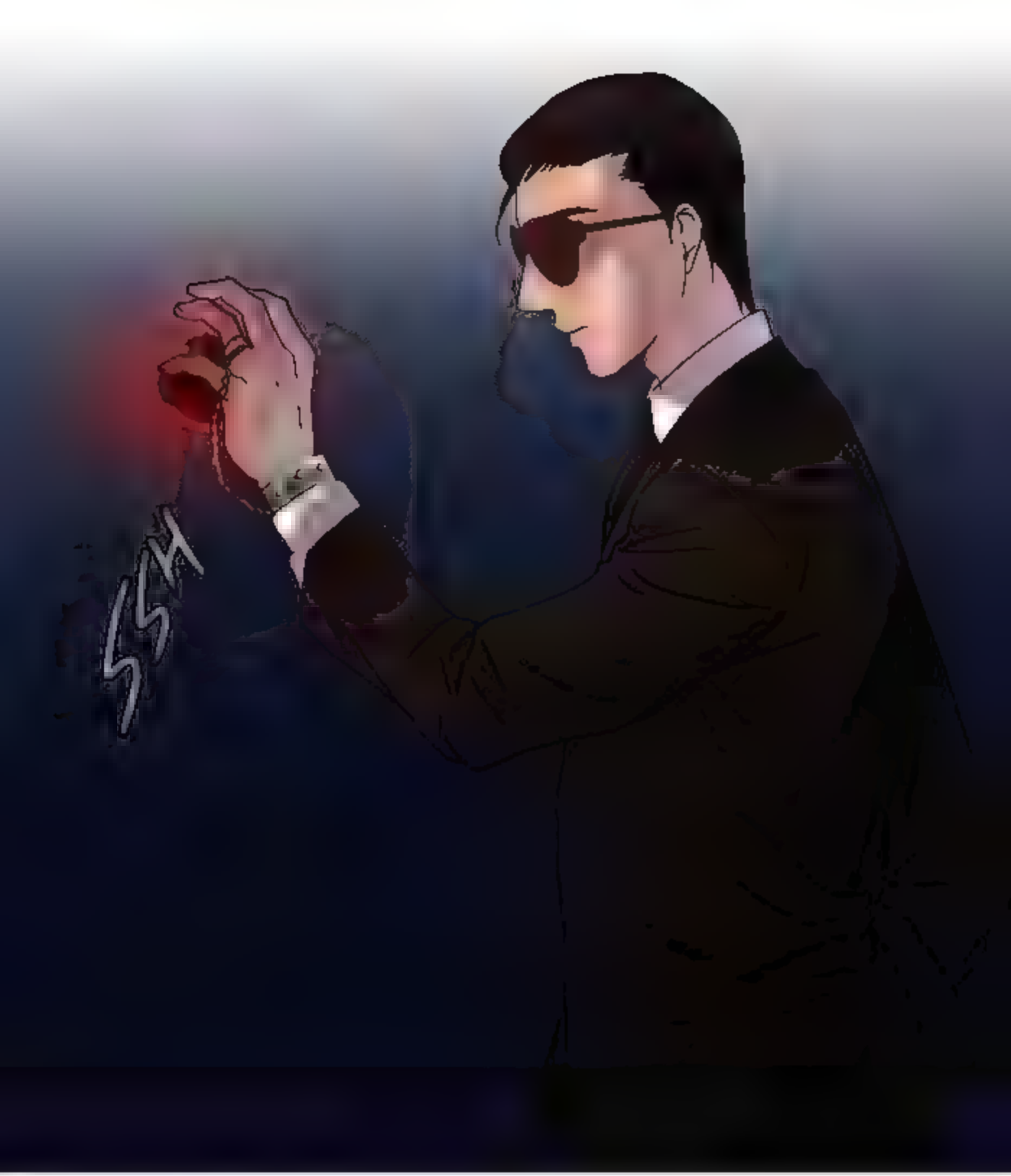

GOOD.

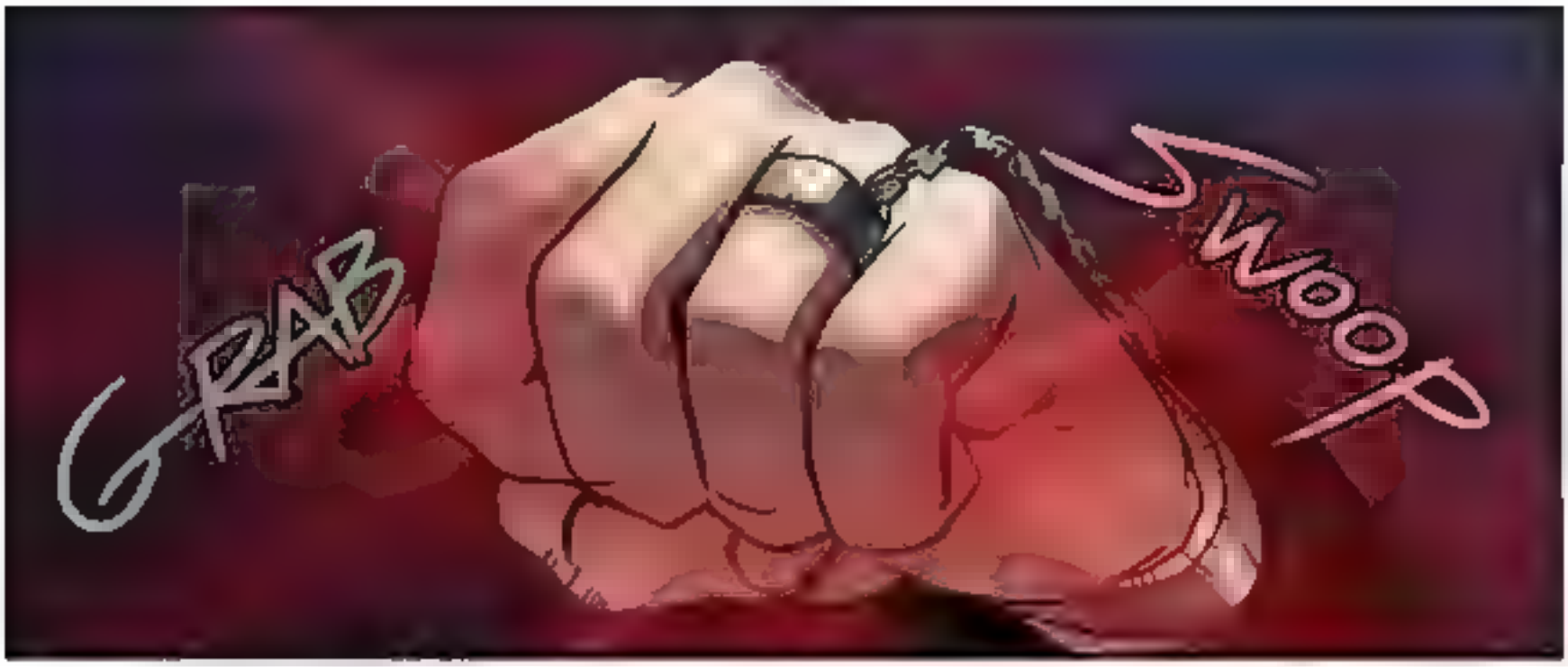
HE'S... THE DARK SUMMONER FROM THE LAST TIME!
HE HASN'T SEEN ME YET...
SHHH
SHH

AHH!

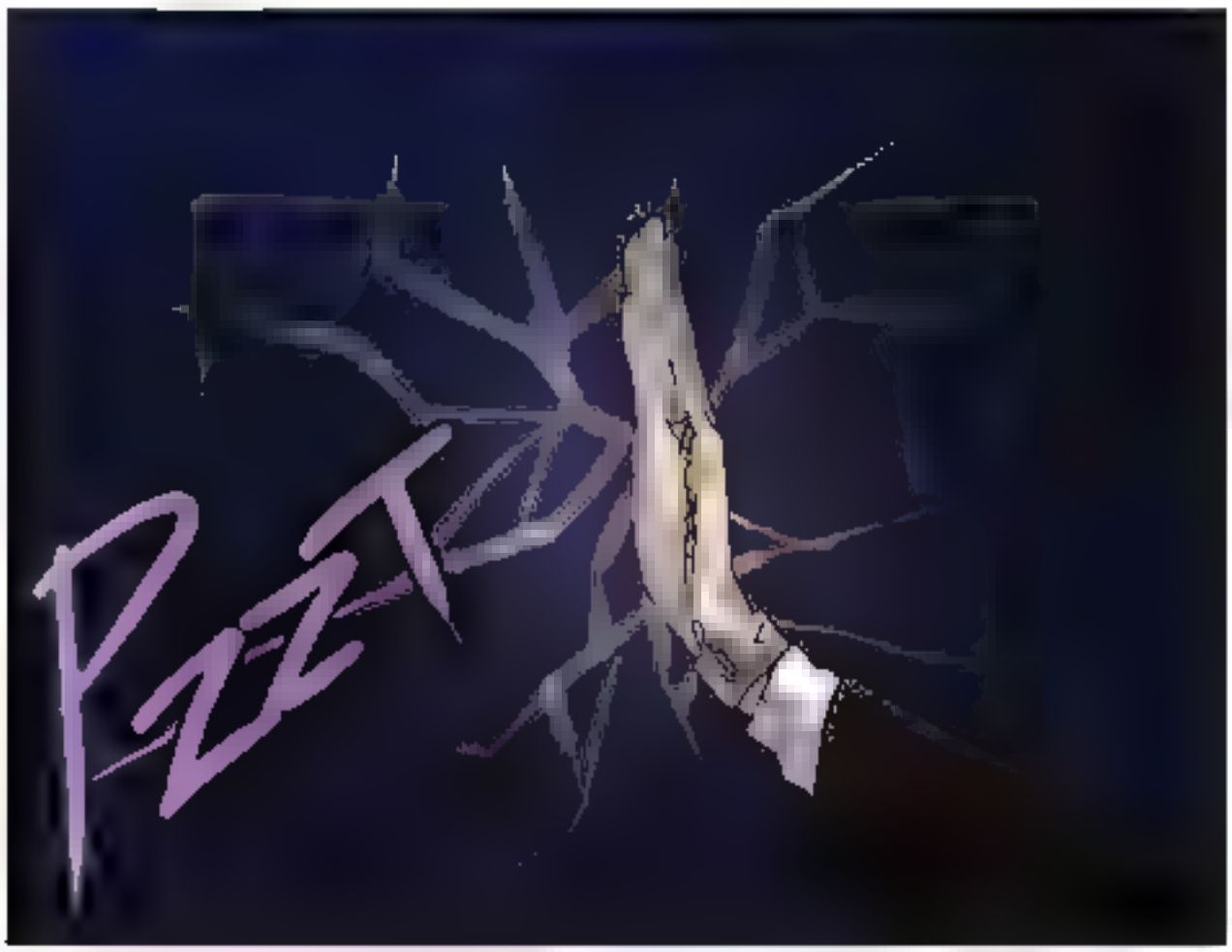
WHOOSH

SCREE



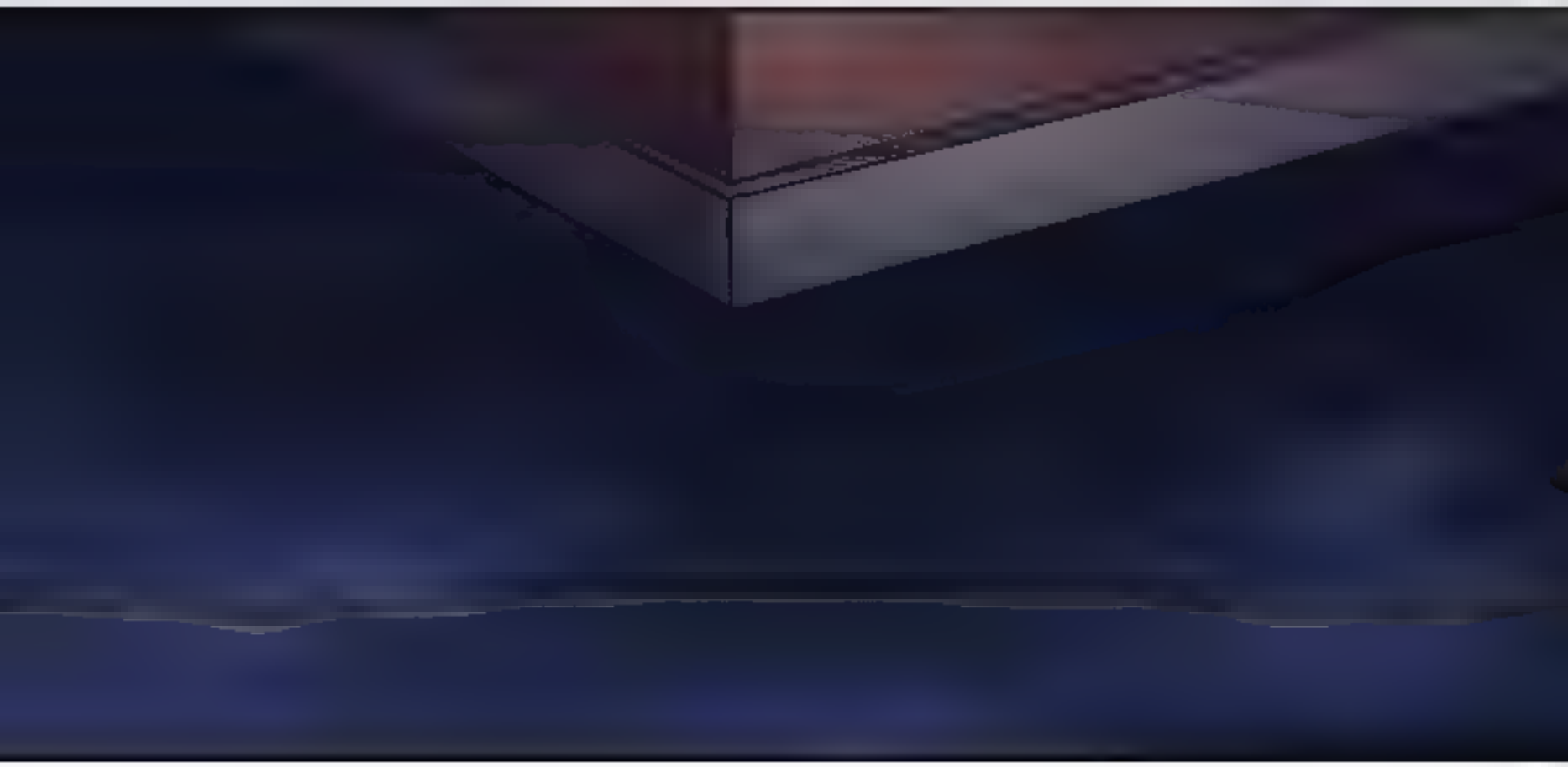

GRAB
SWOOP

DONE.


PZZT

CRASH
HONEY
COME HERE
AHAHA
GURRHR

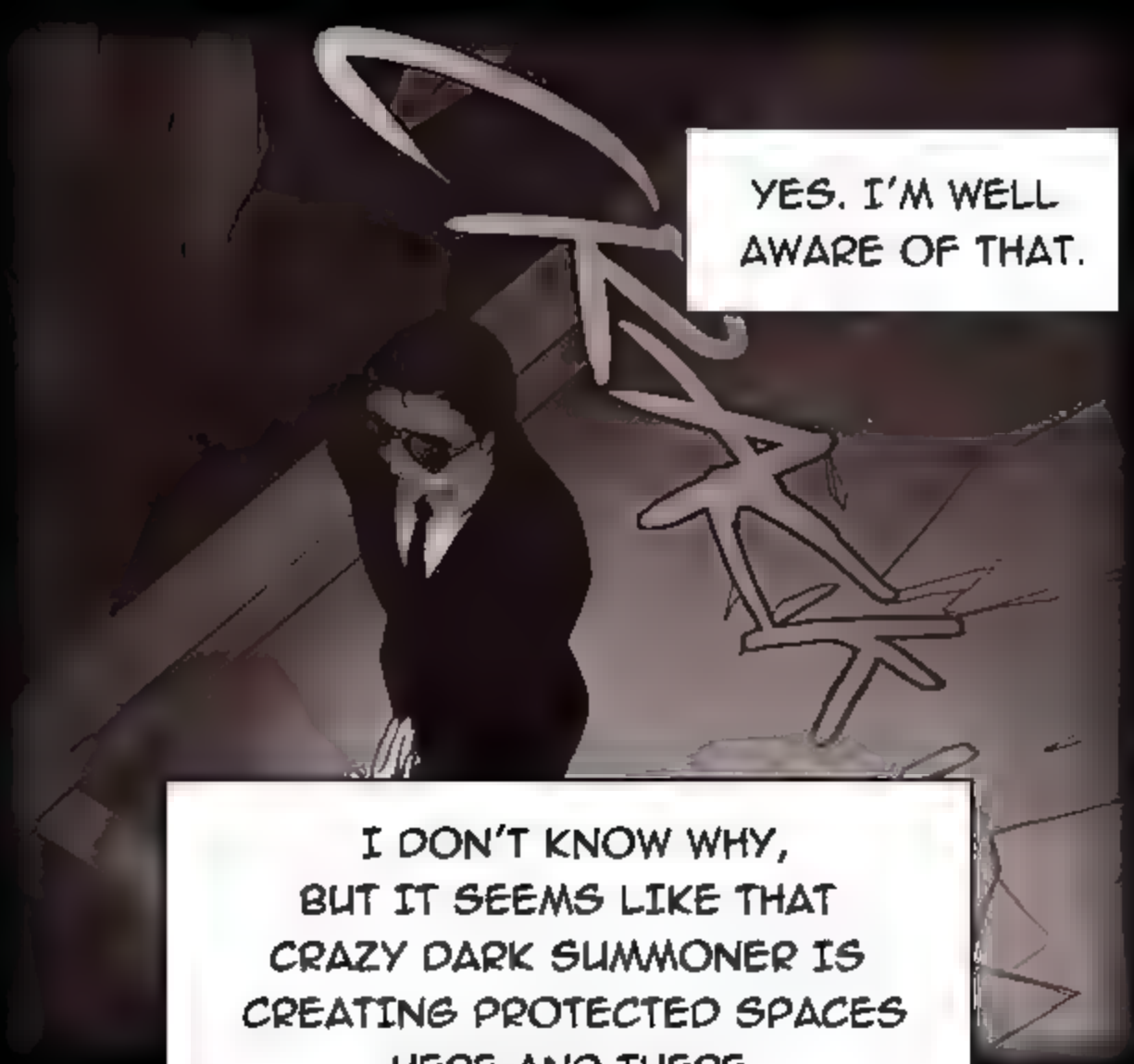
I'M BACK!
I SURVIVED...
SIGH



DARK SUMMONER... WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING TO DO?
DAMN. WHAT SHOULD I DO NOW!?

THE GAMER

I AM IN DANGER.


YES. I'M WELL AWARE OF THAT.
I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT IT SEEMS LIKE THAT CRAZY DARK SUMMONER IS CREATING PROTECTED SPACES HERE AND THERE.

AND...
IN PROTECTED SPACE, IT'S DEFINITELY DANGEROUS.

AT FIRST, I HAD TO FIGHT WITH SHIYEON KWON,

AND THERE WERE ZOMBIES THIS TIME.

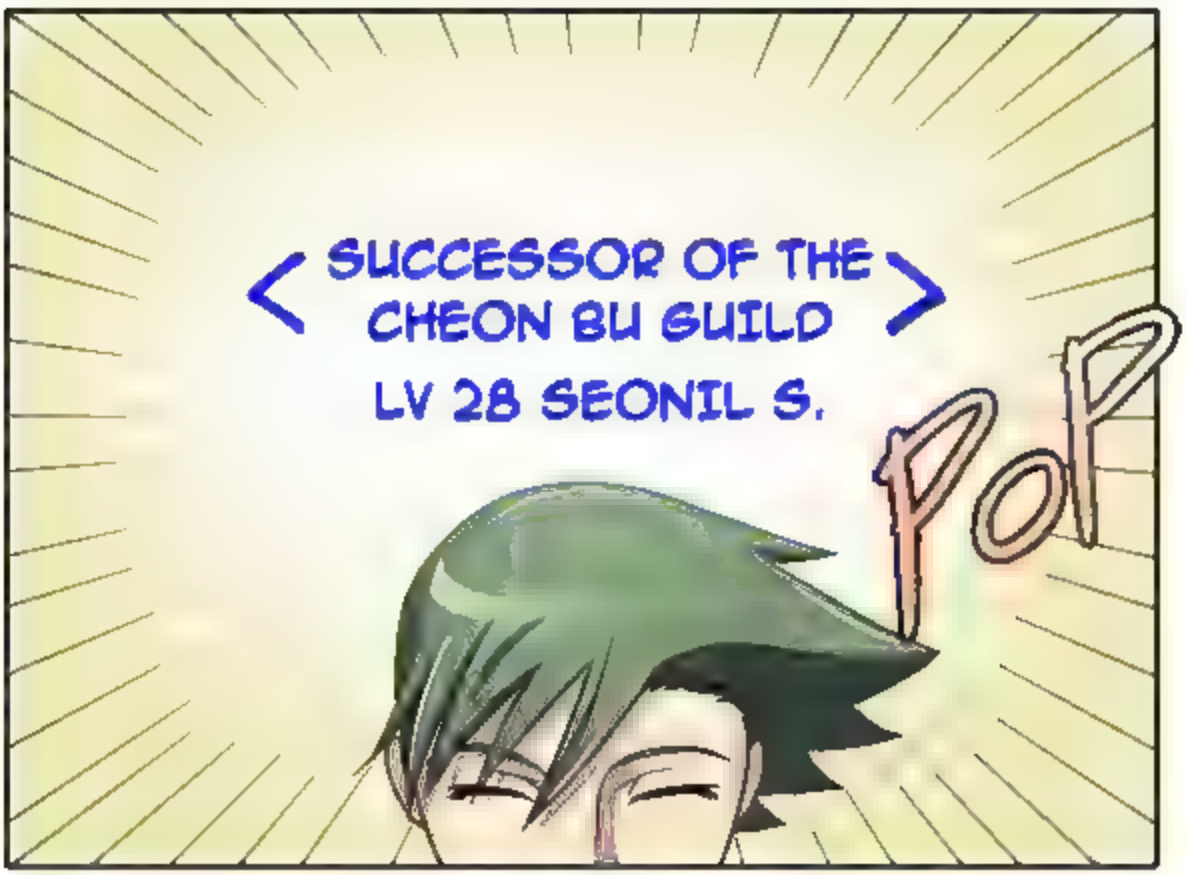
I NEED TO FIND OUT HOW TO SURVIVE.

AND I THINK I KNOW THE FASTEST WAY.

RATTLE

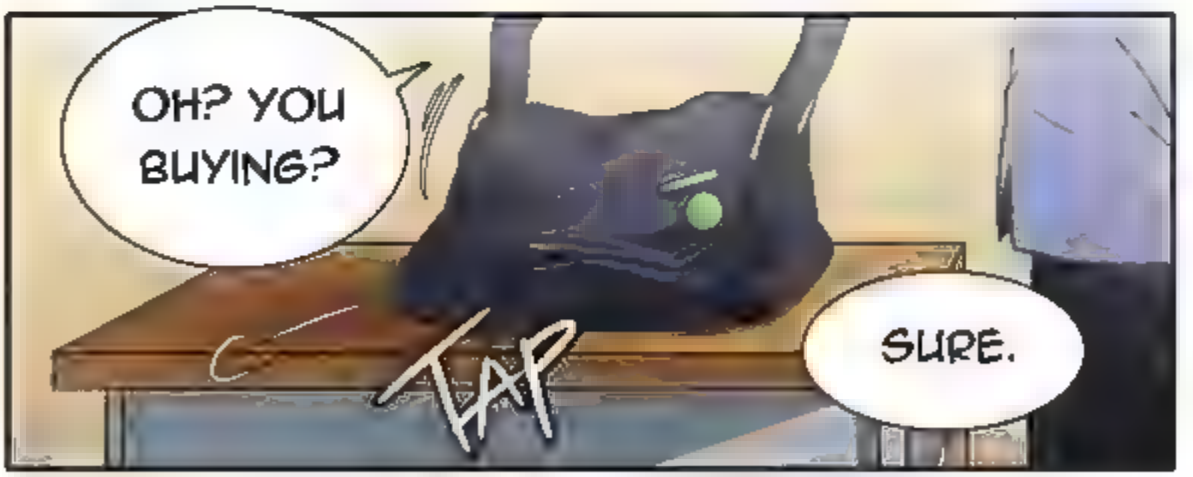
SEONIL SHIN.
LET'S ASK HIM.

GOOD MORNING.
YOU NEVER COME TO SCHOOL EARLY. WHAT'S GOING ON TODAY?


< SUCCESSOR OF THE CHEON BU GUILD >
LV 28 SEONIL S.
Pop

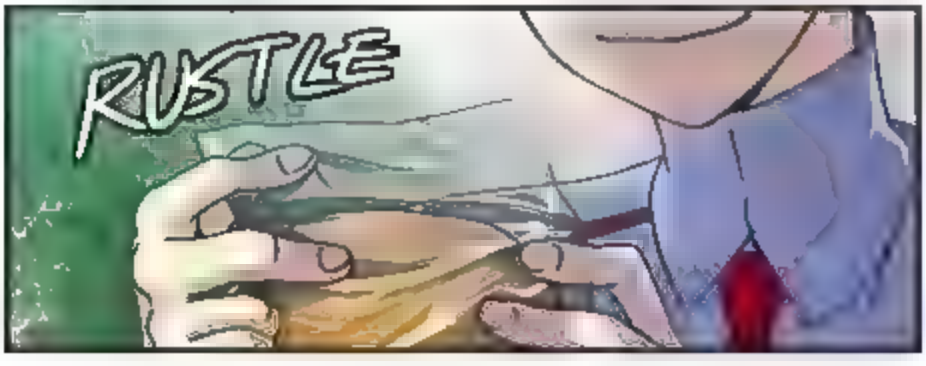
HE WAS LEVEL 25 BEFORE.
DID HE GET STRONGER?

IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.
SCRATCH
ANYWAYS, LET'S GO TO THE CAFETERIA.


OH? YOU BUYING?
TAP
SURE.

YOU KNOW THIS IS QUITE UNUSUAL.
THUD
HM~ WEIRD. SOMETHING'S WRONG.
SHUT UP.
WE'VE BEEN GOOD FRIENDS SINCE KINDERGARTEN.
LV 28 SEONIL S.
I DON'T LIKE THE FACT THAT HE DIDN'T TELL ME ABOUT THE CHEON BU GUILD,
BUT HE'S STILL MY OLD FRIEND.

SO HE IS
THE ONLY ONE
I CAN RELY ON.



OK.
SO YOU REALLY GOT ME SOME SNACKS! WHAT'S BOTHERING YOU SO MUCH?

TELL ME AND I'LL HELP YOU IF I CAN.

JERK.

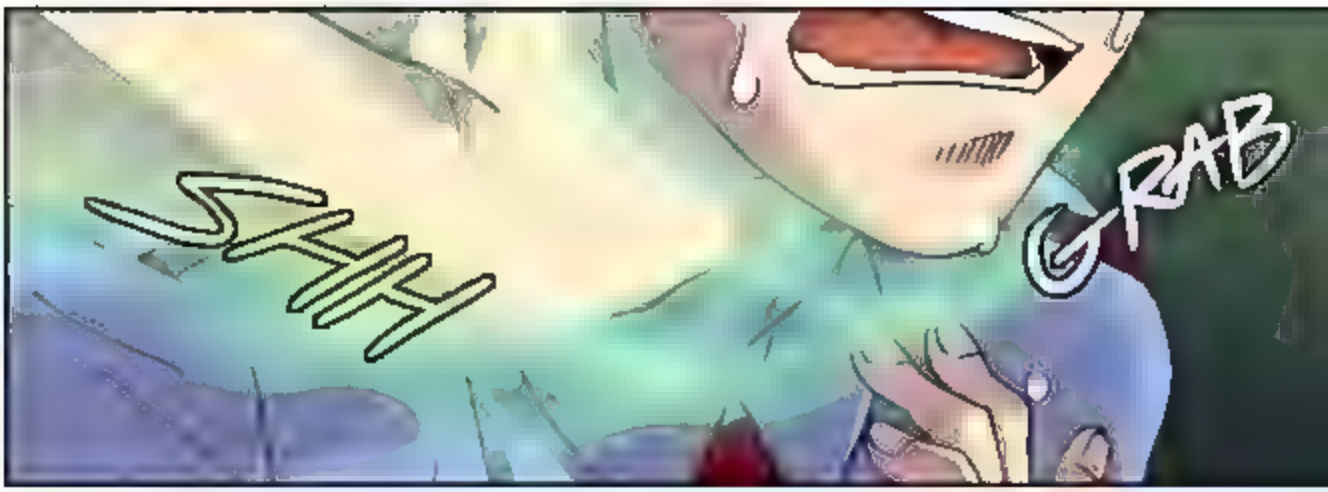
YOU'D BETTER FINISH THE SNACK SOON...

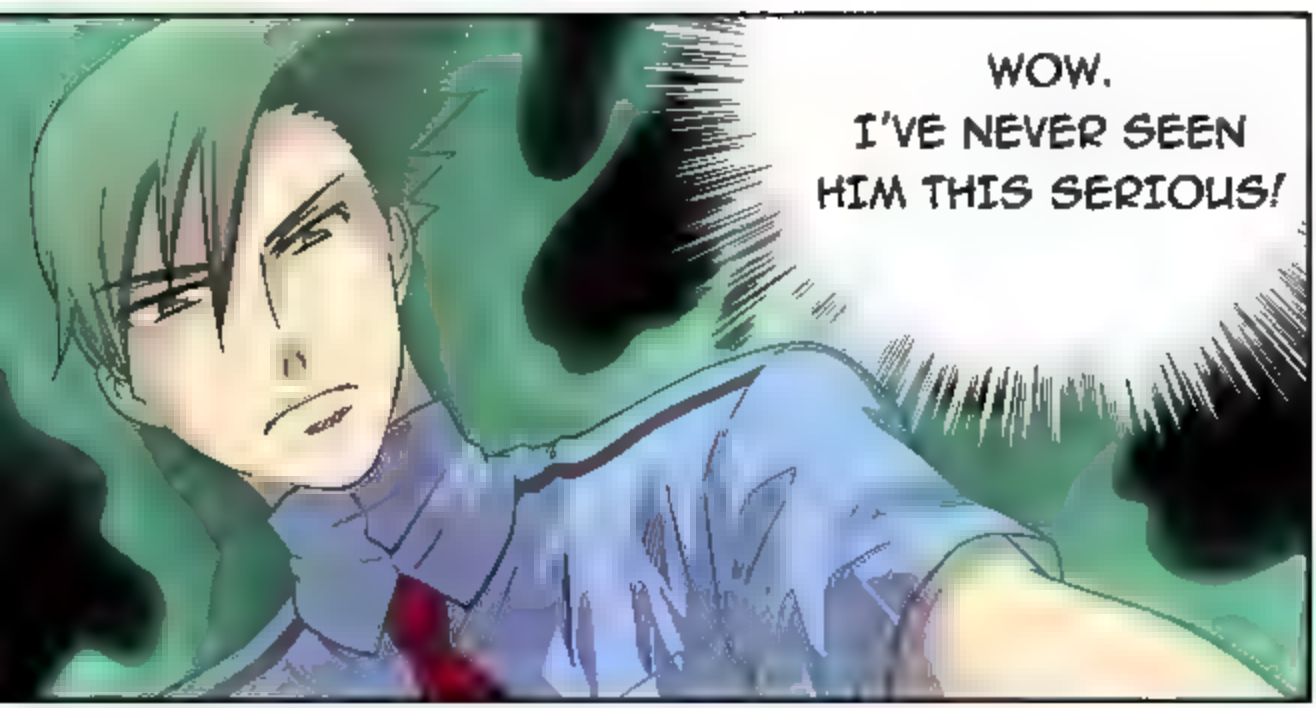
I HAVE SOME QUESTIONS.
OK. SHOOT!
HOW CAN I GET OUT OF A PROTECTED SPACE?
THAT'S SIMPLE! CONCENTRATE ON THE THOUGHT OF WANTING TO GET OUT AND USE...

WAIT.

CRAK
GASP!

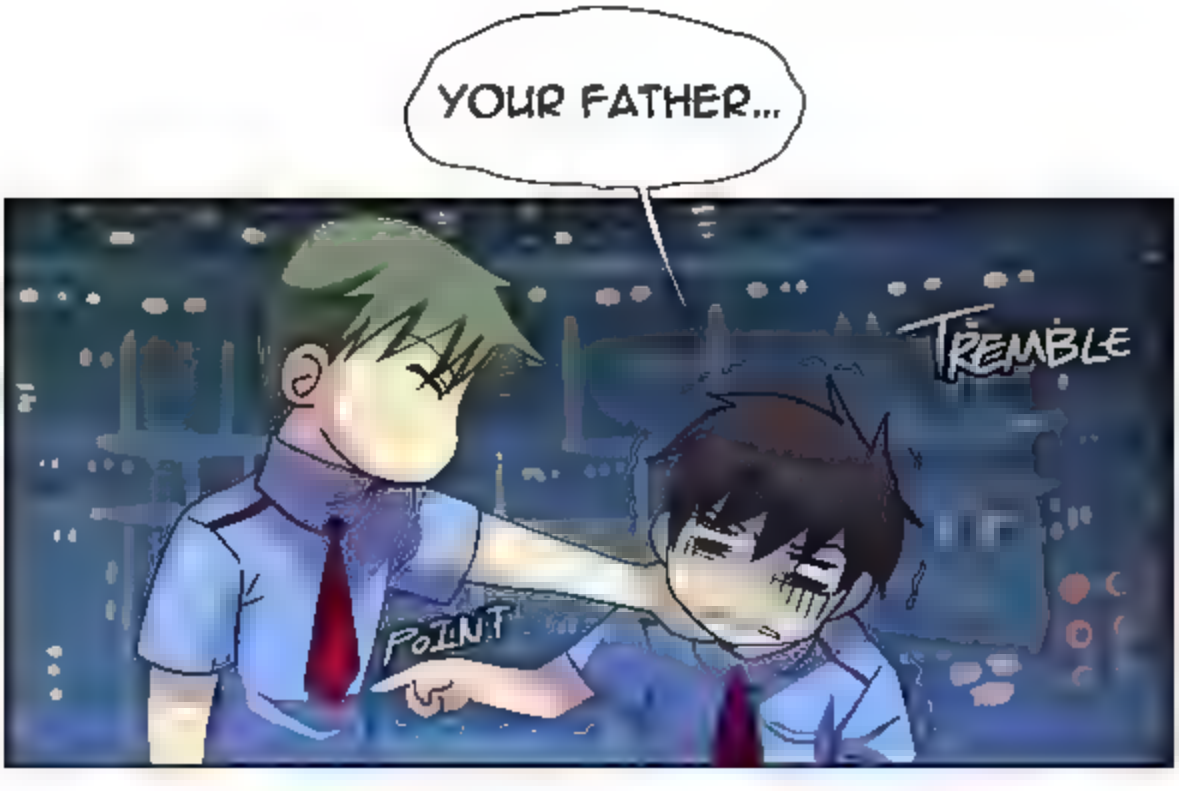
GRAB
WHAT DID YOU DO TO MY FRIEND?

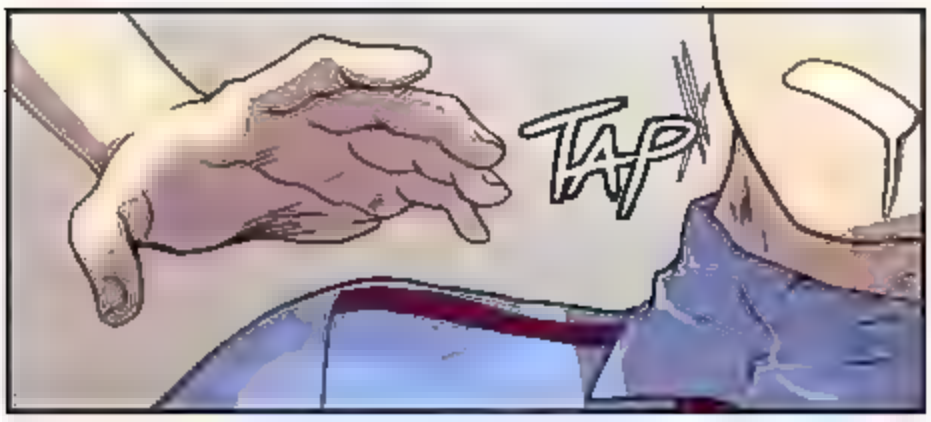

SHH
GRAB


WOW.
I'VE NEVER SEEN
HIM THIS SERIOUS!

HEY, YOU.
TREMBLE
TREMBLE

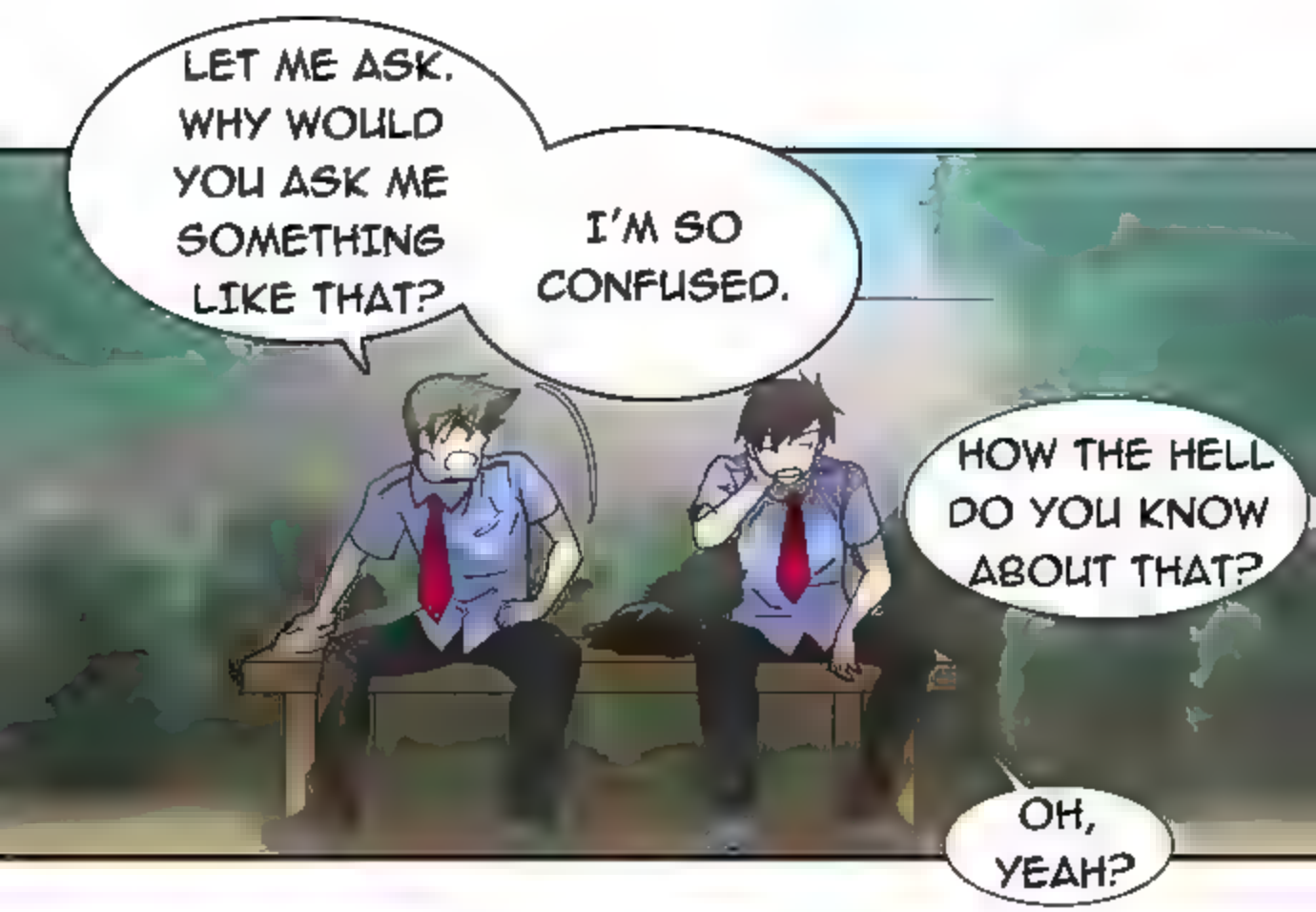
I, I'M...

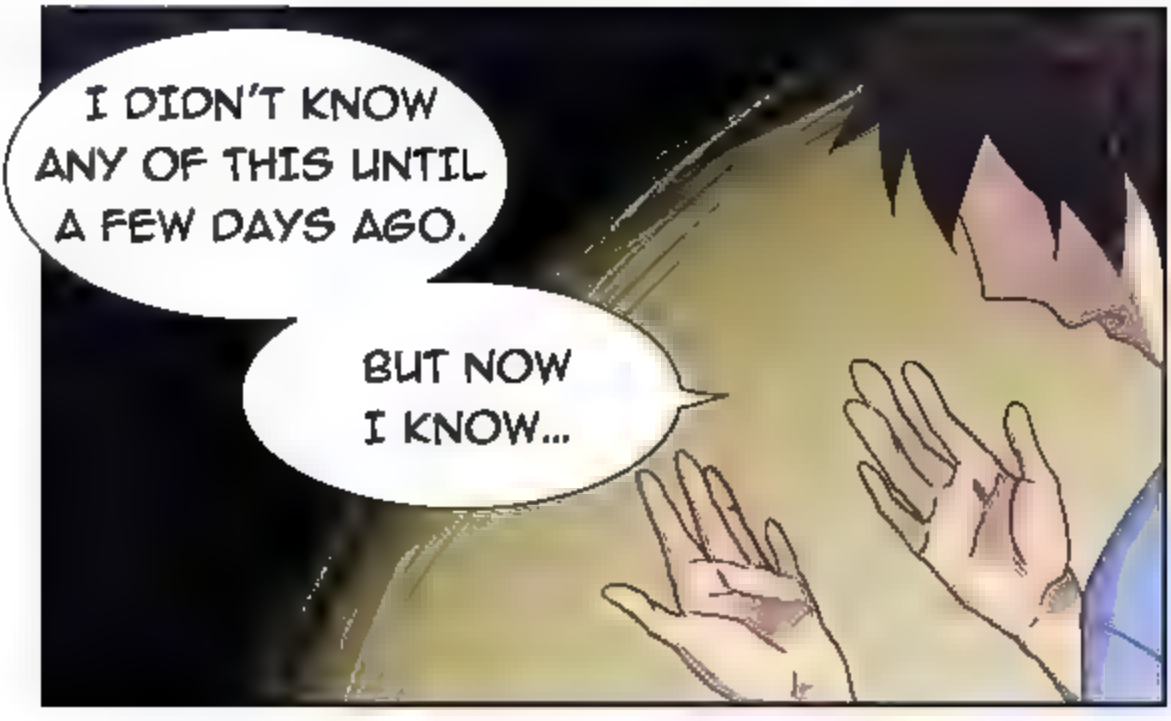

YOUR FATHER...
TREMBLE
POINT

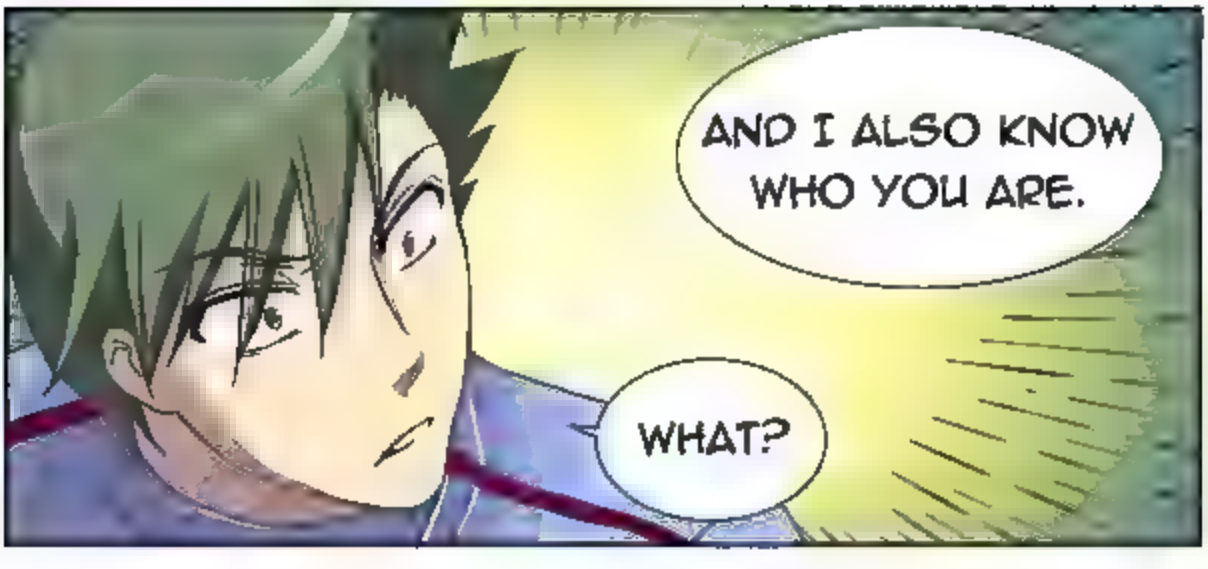

TAP

SILLY TALK... NOW I BELIEVE IT'S YOU, JIHAN.
WHAT THE... WHAT DID YOU JUST DO TO ME?
THROB
THROB
DAMN... IT HURTS.

STILL, I DIDN'T KNOW HE'D CARE THIS MUCH ABOUT ME... THAT'S NICE...
I DON'T LIKE THE FACT HE HAD A SECRET, BUT HE MUST HAVE HAD HIS REASONS...

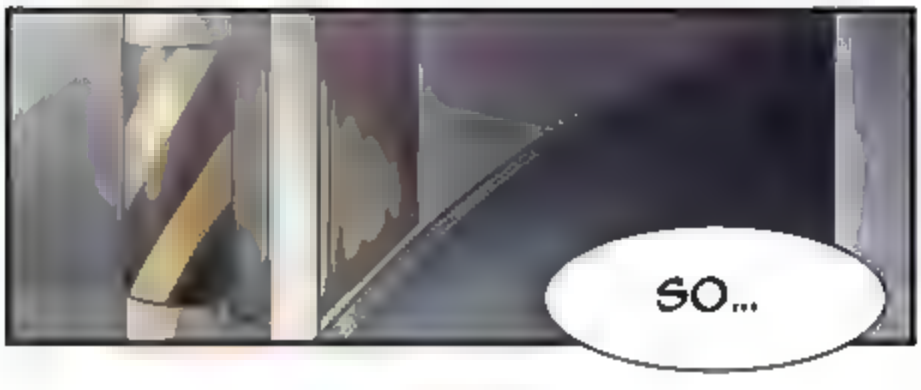

LET ME ASK. WHY WOULD YOU ASK ME SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
I'M SO CONFUSED.
HOW THE HELL DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THAT?
OH, YEAH?


I DIDN'T KNOW ANY OF THIS UNTIL A FEW DAYS AGO.
BUT NOW I KNOW...


AND I ALSO KNOW WHO YOU ARE.
WHAT?

THE SUCCESSOR OF CHEON BU GUILD. SEONIL SHIN.

THAT'S WHO YOU ARE, RIGHT?


SO...

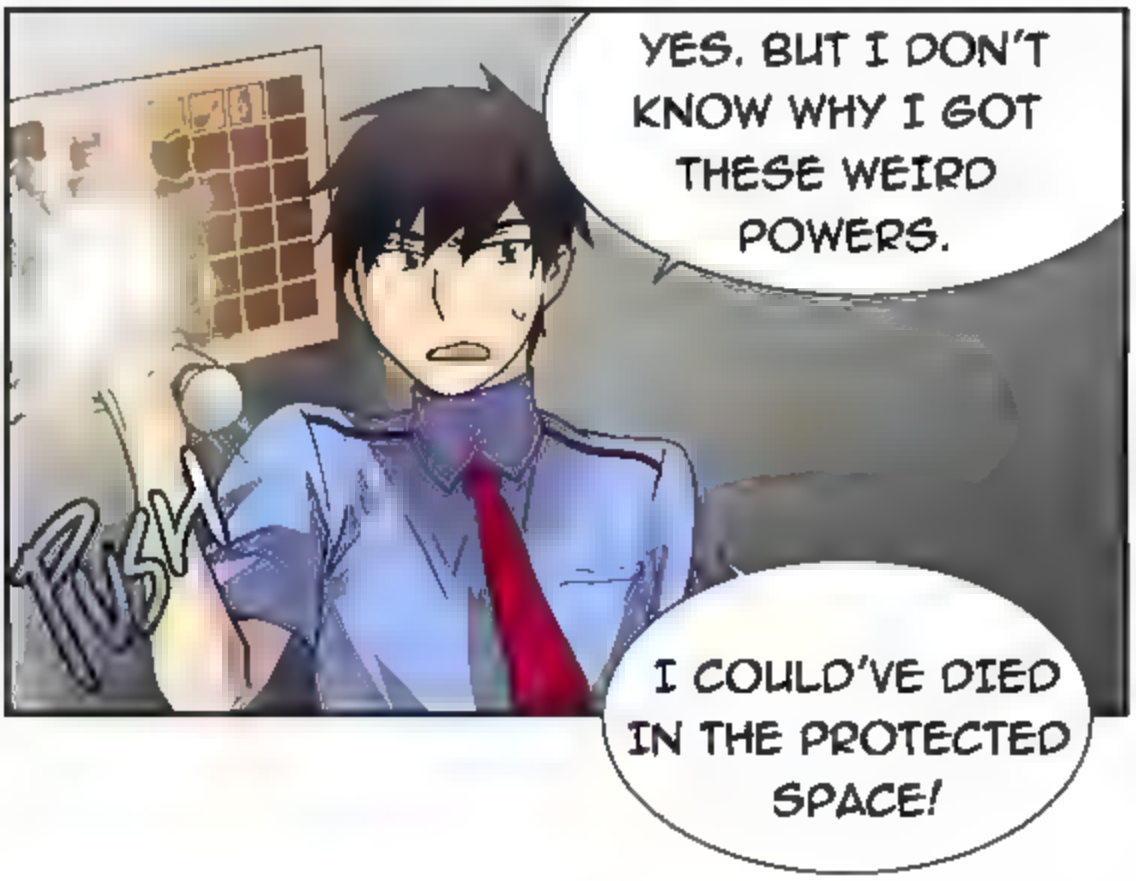
YOU SEE LEVELS AND GOT SOME SKILLS?
YEAH.

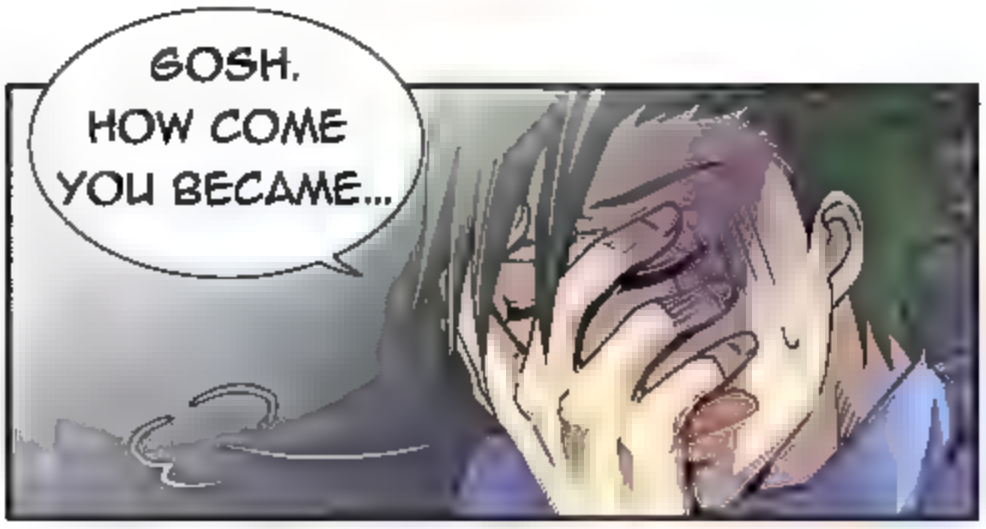
LOOK.
SSH

PULL

PWAT

WOW.
IT LOOKS
FOUR- DIMENSIONAL.
IS IT LIKE
AN INVENTORY
IN A GAME?

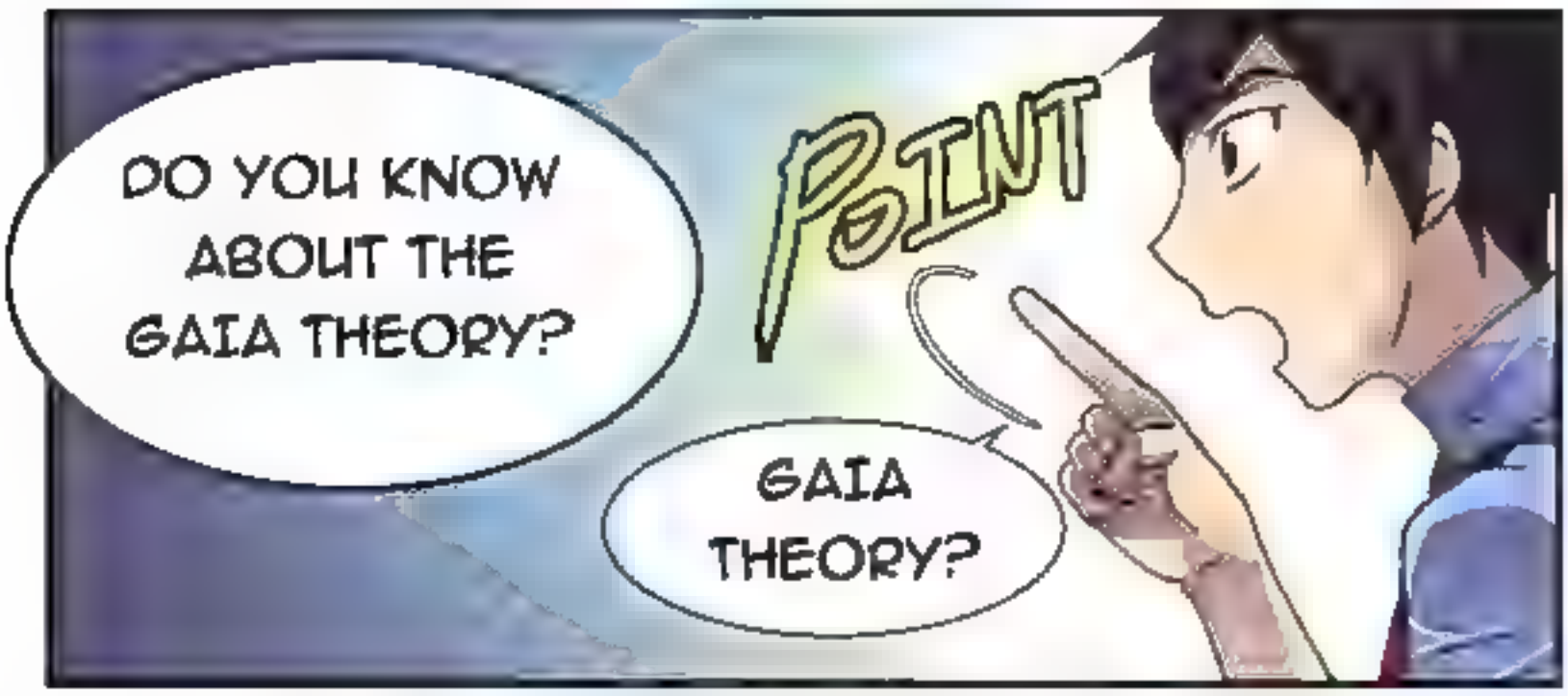

YES. BUT I DON'T KNOW WHY I GOT THESE WEIRD POWERS.
PUSH
I COULD'VE DIED IN THE PROTECTED SPACE!


GOSH. HOW COME YOU BECAME...

YOU WERE CHOSEN.
WHAT?

IT'S A LONG STORY...
GO ON.
I'M SKIPPING MY INSTITUTE. THIS IS A LIFE OR DEATH SITUATION!

OK.
I WILL EXPLAIN
AS SIMPLY AS I CAN.


DO YOU KNOW
ABOUT THE
GAIA THEORY?
POINT
GAIA
THEORY?

GAIA THEORY.

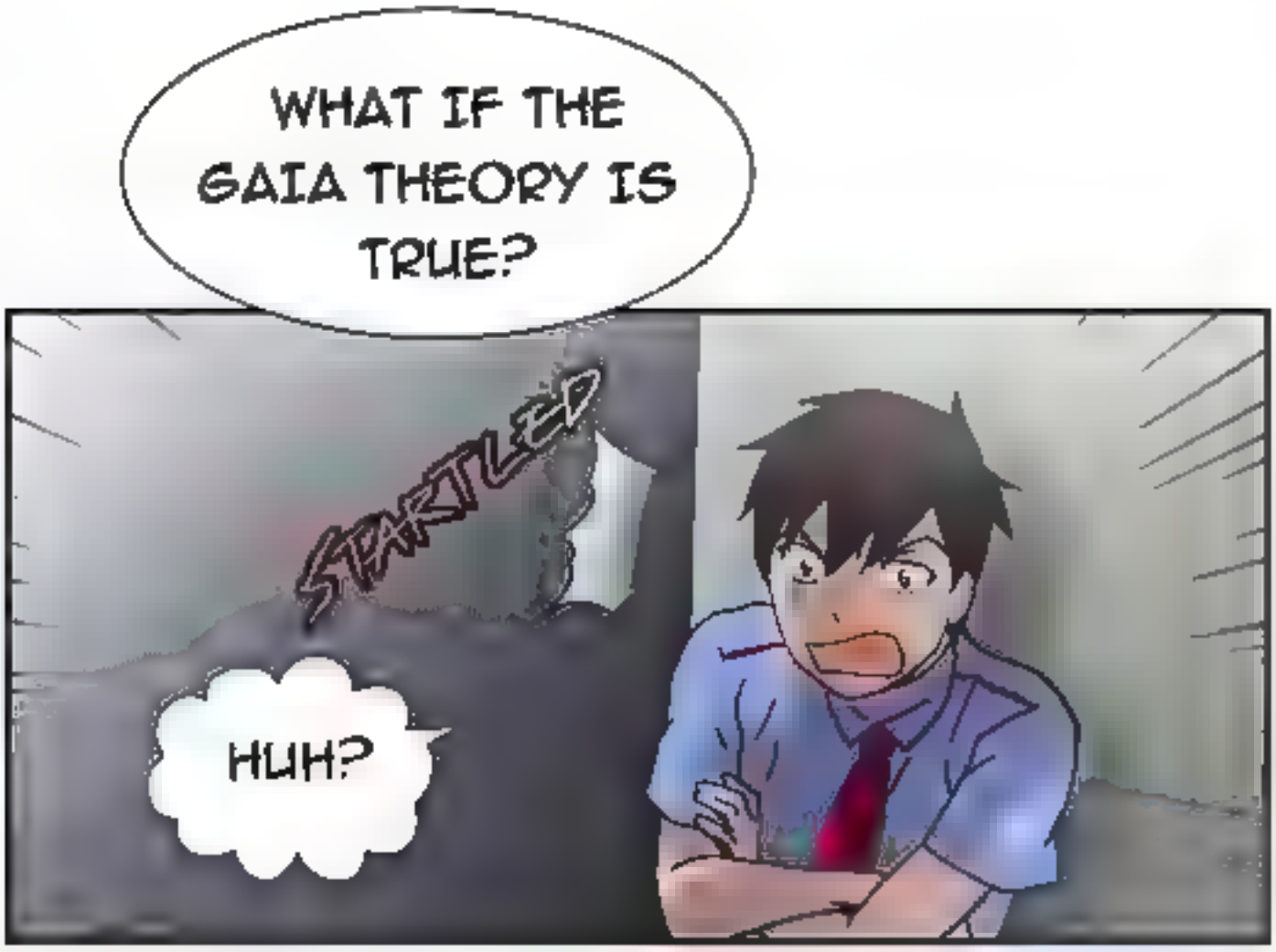
IT PROPOSES THAT THE EARTH IS ALIVE,

AND THE EARTH ITSELF CAN EXERT ITS WILL.
I KNOW IT'S NEVER BEEN PROVED SCIENTIFICALLY.

SO GAIA THEORY IS OFTEN USED IN FANTASY NOVELS OR GAMES.

NEEDLESS TO SAY, IT'S A STUPID THEORY.

I KNEW YOU WOULD KNOW BECAUSE YOU LOVE GAMES.


WHAT IF THE GAIA THEORY IS TRUE?
STARTLED
HUH?

LISTEN TO ME.
THERE ARE SUPERNATURAL POWERS.
SOME PEOPLE SAY IT'S "PROVIDENCE" AND OTHERS SAY IT'S "NATURAL LAW".
IT'S BEEN CALLED THE "PRINCIPLE", OR "ORIGIN".
YOU'RE TALKING NONSENSE.

LET ME FINISH. SO PEOPLE HAVE DIFFERENT NAMES FOR IT,

BUT GENERALLY... THEY CALL IT "GOD".

I DON'T KNOW IF THERE'S A GOD OR NOT BUT...

...I CAN TELL YOU THIS. SOME SUPERNATURAL POWERS REALLY EXIST ON THIS PLANET.

FOR EXAMPLE...
GHOSTS DO EXIST.

THE GAMER

STORY BY SANGYOUNG SEONG
ILLUST BY SANG-A

LINE Webtoon

YOU KNOW
GHOSTS DO EXIST.

THE GAMER

STORY BY SANGYOUNG SEONG
ILLUST BY SANG-A

TELEKINESIS,

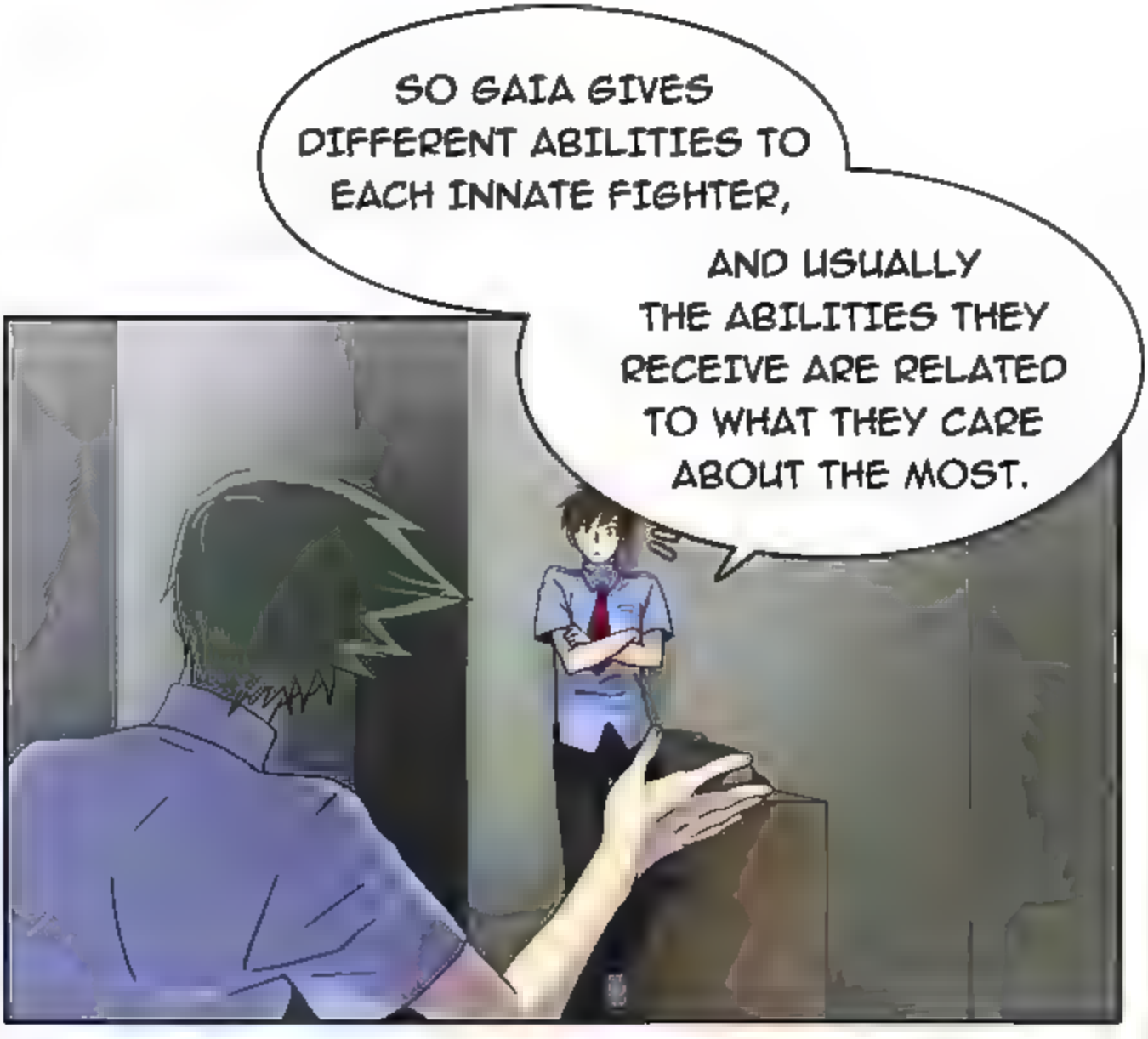
WHICH MEANS YOU CAN MOVE THINGS WITH YOUR MIND.
THERE ARE OTHER POWERS TOO.
SOME PEOPLE CAN TELEPORT,
AND SOME CAN IGNITE FIRES.

THEY'RE CALLED INNATE FIGHTERS.
BECAUSE THEY WERE BORN WITH SPECIAL ABILITIES.

A-HA.

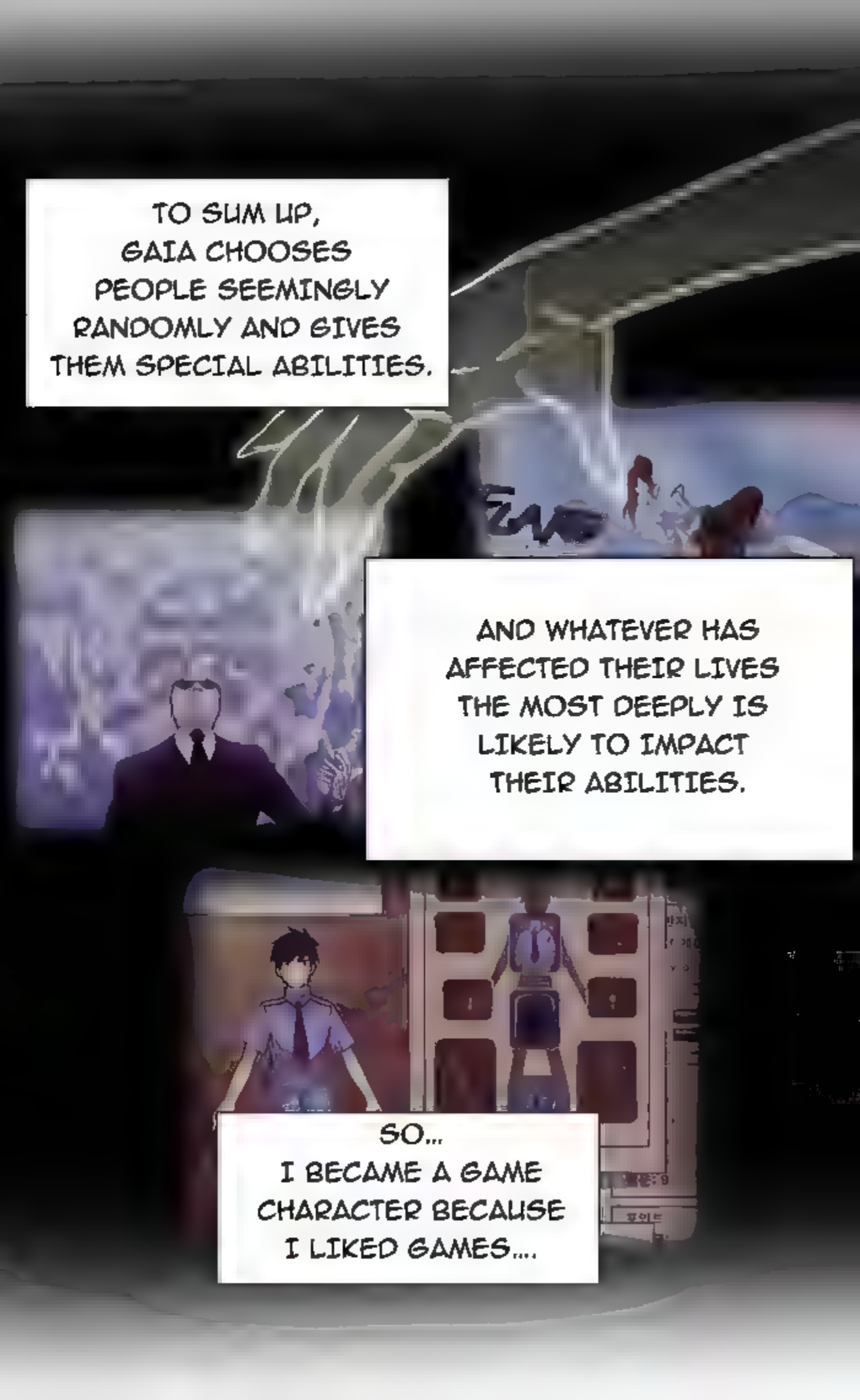
CAN WE GO BACK...
...TO THE GAIA THEORY?
OK.
WE BELIEVE THAT GAIA GAVE THESE SPECIAL ABILITIES TO INNATE FIGHTERS.
IT'S LIKE GOD CHOSE THEM.

HUH?
GOD'S CHOICE?
GAIA...
IN OTHER WORDS, THE EARTH GAVE ME THIS ABILITY?
THEN HOW COME MY ABILITY IS SO WEIRD?


SO GAIA GIVES DIFFERENT ABILITIES TO EACH INNATE FIGHTER,
AND USUALLY THE ABILITIES THEY RECEIVE ARE RELATED TO WHAT THEY CARE ABOUT THE MOST.

FOR EXAMPLE,
IF YOU WERE NEARLY DROWNED
WHEN YOU WERE YOUNG,
YOU'D BE ABLE TO
CONTROL WATER.
NOD
NOD
THAT'S
AMAZING.
WAIT!
THAT MEANS...

THAT'S RIGHT... YOU LIKE PLAYING GAMES TOO MUCH, YOU RECEIVED POWERS JUST LIKE IN GAME.
SHAKING
HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YOU? YOU WERE ALMOST ADDICTED TO GAMES!
DUB
RUB-A-
IT... IT CAN'T BE TRUE!


TO SUM UP,
GAIA CHOOSES
PEOPLE SEEMINGLY
RANDOMLY AND GIVES
THEM SPECIAL ABILITIES.
AND WHATEVER HAS
AFFECTED THEIR LIVES
THE MOST DEEPLY IS
LIKELY TO IMPACT
THEIR ABILITIES.
SO...
I BECAME A GAME
CHARACTER BECAUSE
I LIKED GAMES....

IS THIS FOR REAL!?

I SEE.
I UNDERSTAND
WHAT HAPPENED
TO ME NOW.

SO, THEN WHAT'S THE
PROTECTED SPACE?

IT'S SPACE FOR
FIGHTING.

WHAT?

IT'S COMPLICATED. LISTEN TO ME.

GAIA GIVES INNATE FIGHTERS NOT ONLY THEIR ABILITIES...

BUT ALSO... LIMITATIONS.

LIMITATIONS?

IT'S CALLED A PREVENTATIVE POWER.

IF THEY OVERUSE THEIR POWERS AND SERIOUSLY IMPACT THE REAL WORLD...
GAIA WILL INTERFERE AND SHUT THEM DOWN.
HUH?
PREVENTATIVE? SHUTTING DOWN?

HM~
LET'S SAY YOU WON THE LOTTERY USING YOUR POWER.
FROM THAT MOMENT, YOU WOULD BE IN BIG TROUBLE.
FOR EXAMPLE,,, YOU'D BE STRUCK BY LIGHTNING,

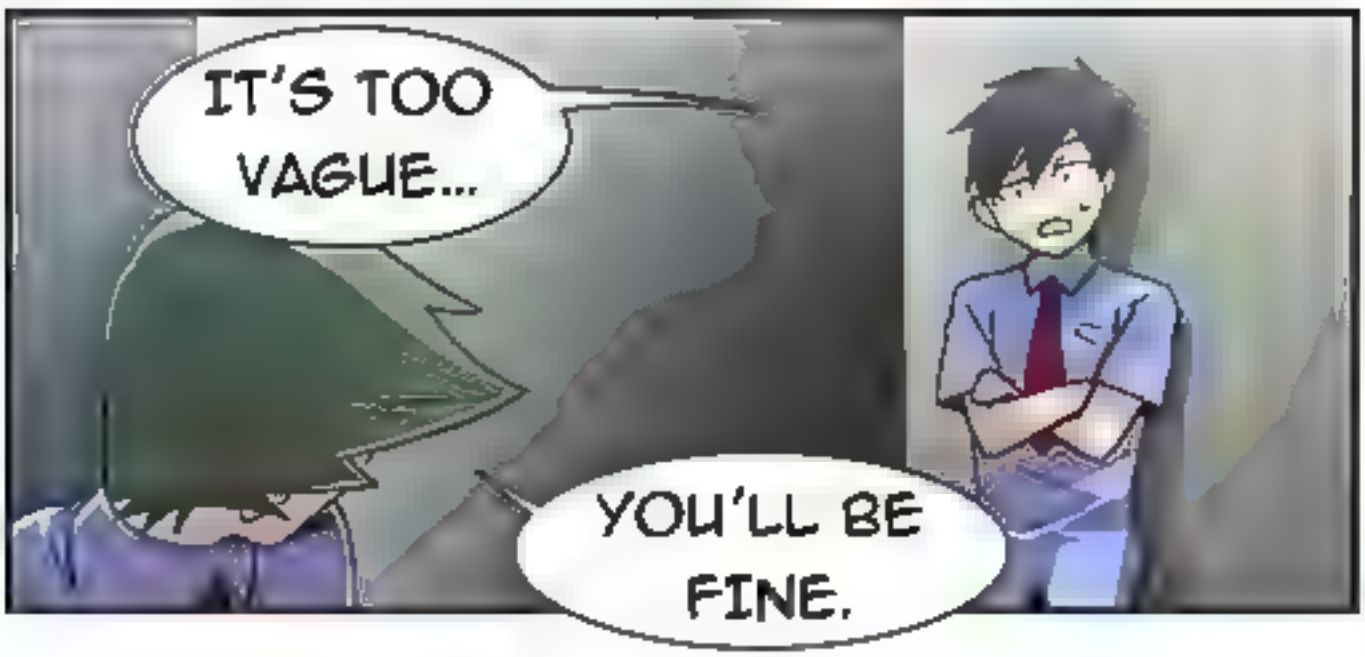
OR YOU'D GET INTO A CAR ACCIDENT. EVENTUALLY, YOU'D SUFFER MISFORTUNE.
NO WAY.
HEY, I AM SERIOUS.
THE MORE INFLUENCE YOU EXERT ON THE WORLD, THE MORE TROUBLE YOU WILL GET YOURSELF INTO.

IT'S INEVITABLE. THE EARTH YOU ARE LIVING ON WILL PUNISH YOU.

TERRIFYING...
I KNOW.
BUT YOU'RE OK,
UNLESS YOU HAVE A GREAT
IMPACT ON THE WORLD.
LET'S SAY
YOU'RE SELLING
SOME SNACKS
ON THE STREET,
AND YOU USED YOUR
POWER TO
SELL THEM OUT.

AND... THAT WOULD BE FINE!?
YES, BECAUSE YOU'RE NOT HAVING A GREAT EFFECT ON PEOPLE.

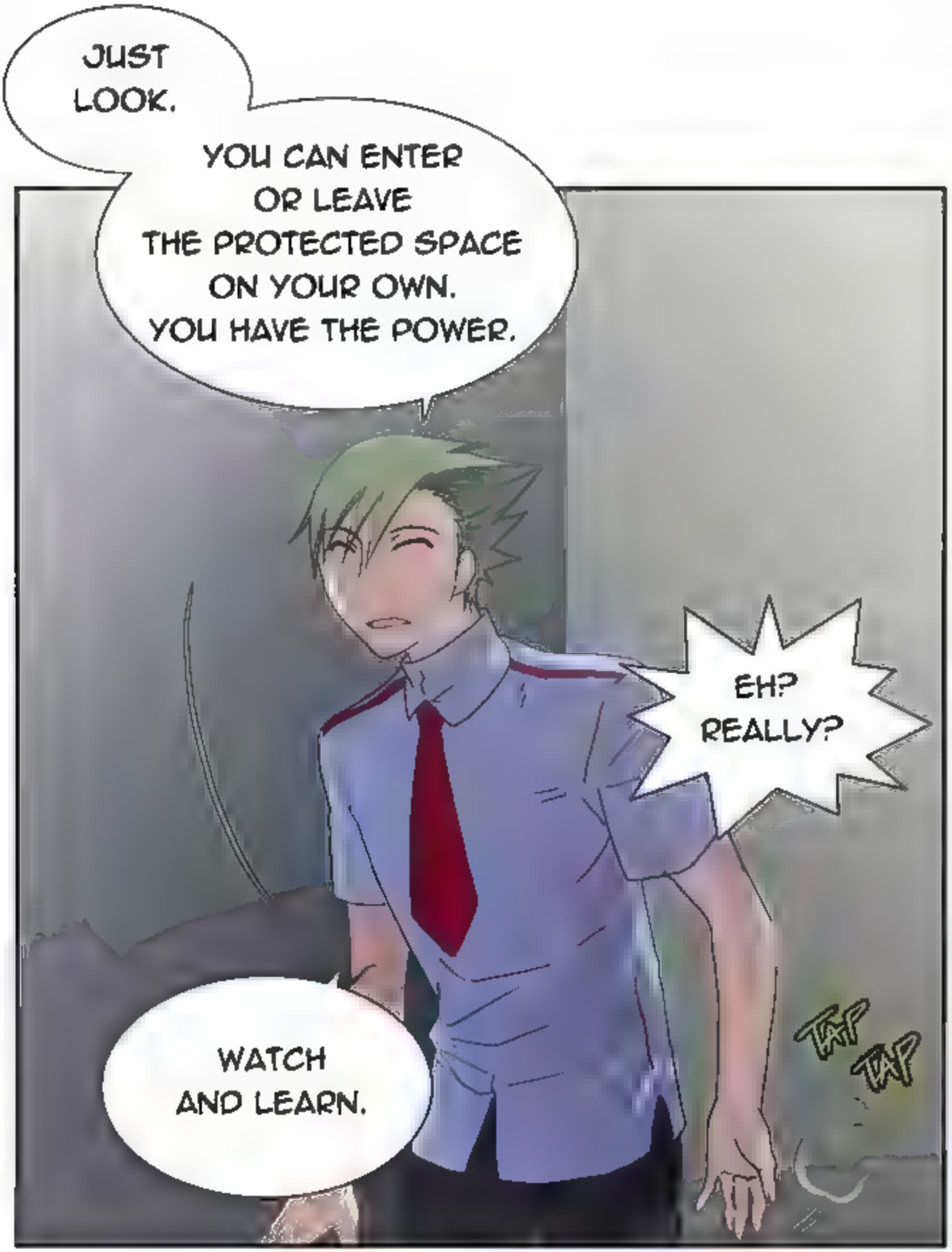
I THINK YOU'RE CONFUSED ABOUT THE LIMITATIONS.
I'LL SAY IT'S OKAY UNLESS PEOPLE THINK SOMETHING IS WEIRD.


IT'S TOO VAGUE...
YOU'LL BE FINE.

LET'S GO BACK A LITTLE BIT.
IN PROTECTED SPACE, YOU CAN USE YOUR SUPERNATURAL POWERS WITHOUT LIMITATIONS.
SO, YOU CAN DO WHATEVER YOU WANT IN PROTECTED SPACE.
IT'S THE EASIEST PLACE FOR FIGHTERS TO USE THEIR POWERS.

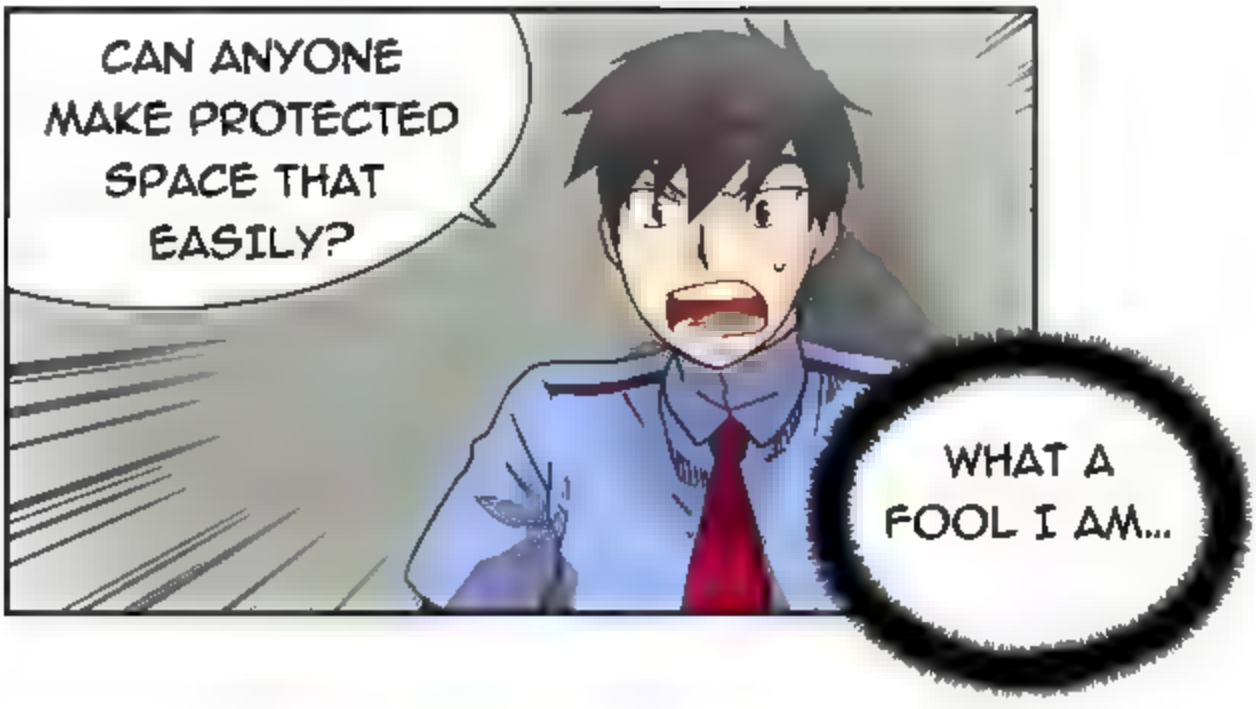
HOW SO?
BECAUSE GAIA HELPS YOU TO ENTER THE PROTECTED SPACE!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
THERE ARE TOO MANY THINGS TO LEARN...


JUST LOOK.
YOU CAN ENTER OR LEAVE THE PROTECTED SPACE ON YOUR OWN. YOU HAVE THE POWER.
EH? REALLY?
TAP TAP
WATCH AND LEARN.

THE GAMER

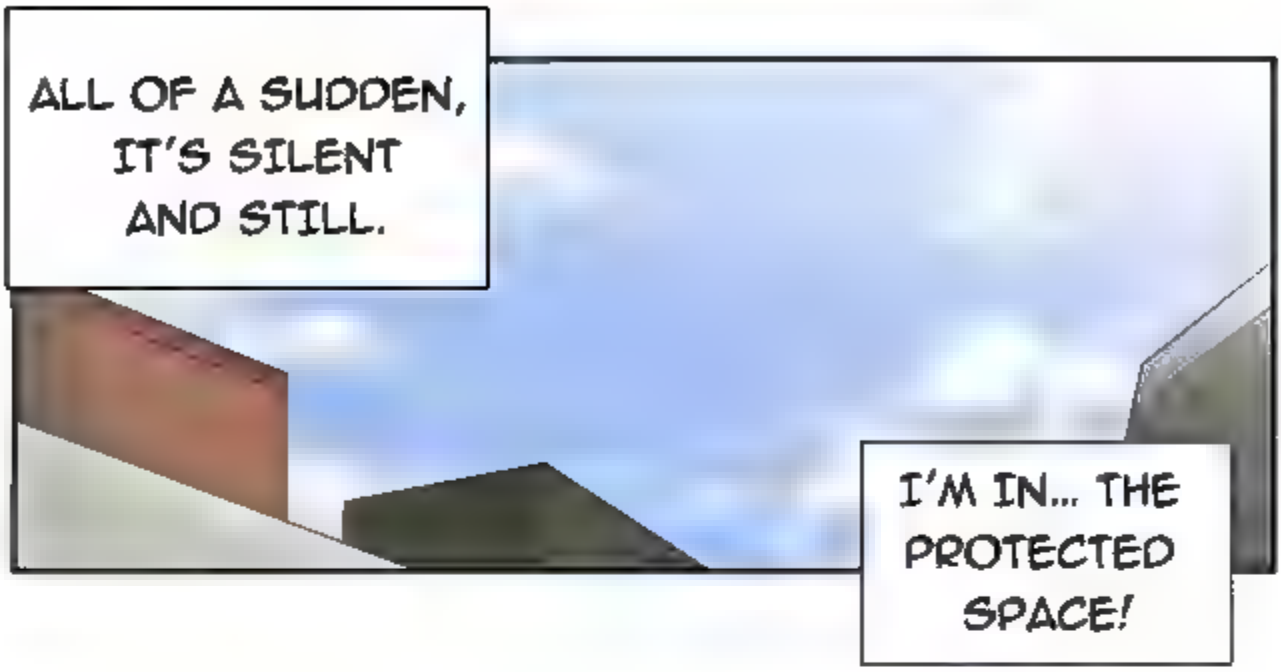
WATCH AND LEARN.
TAP TAP


CAN ANYONE MAKE PROTECTED SPACE THAT EASILY?
WHAT A FOOL I AM...

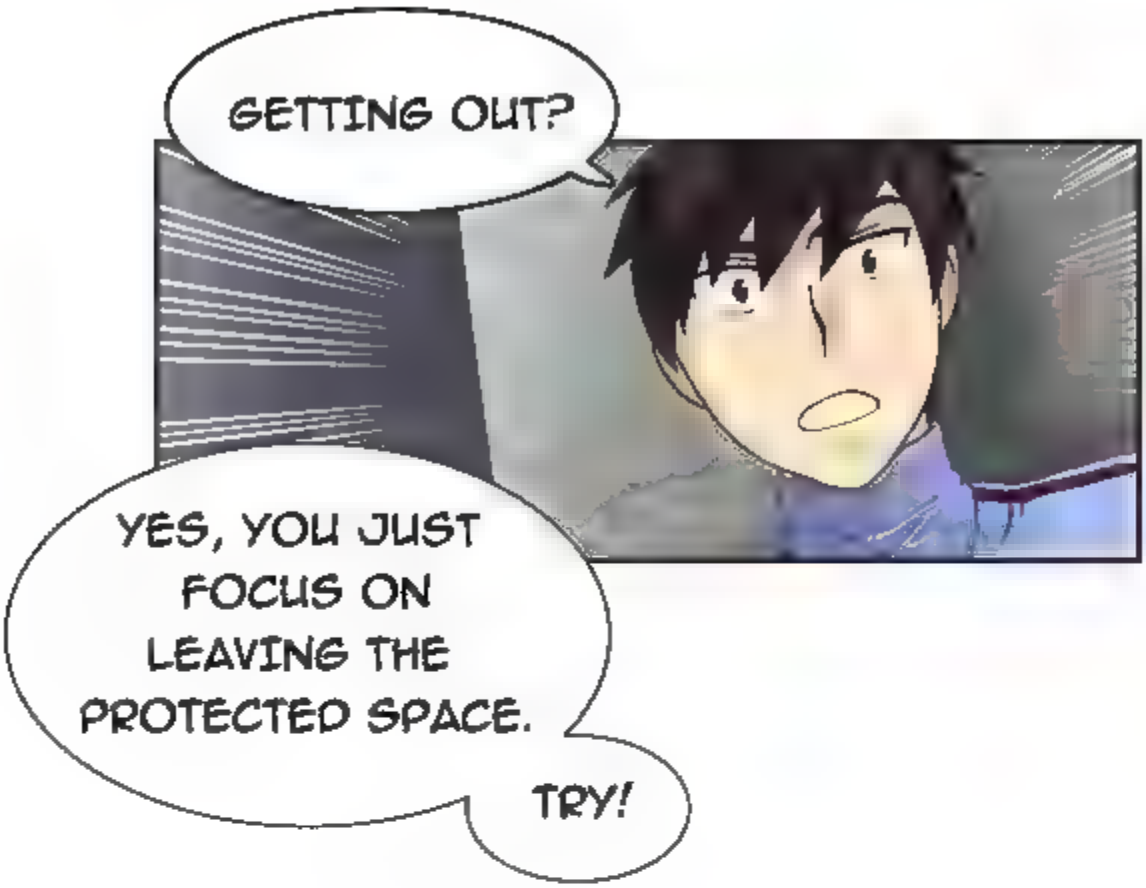
YOU CAN LEARN RIGHT NOW.
LOOK.

PHAT
FLASH

CRANG

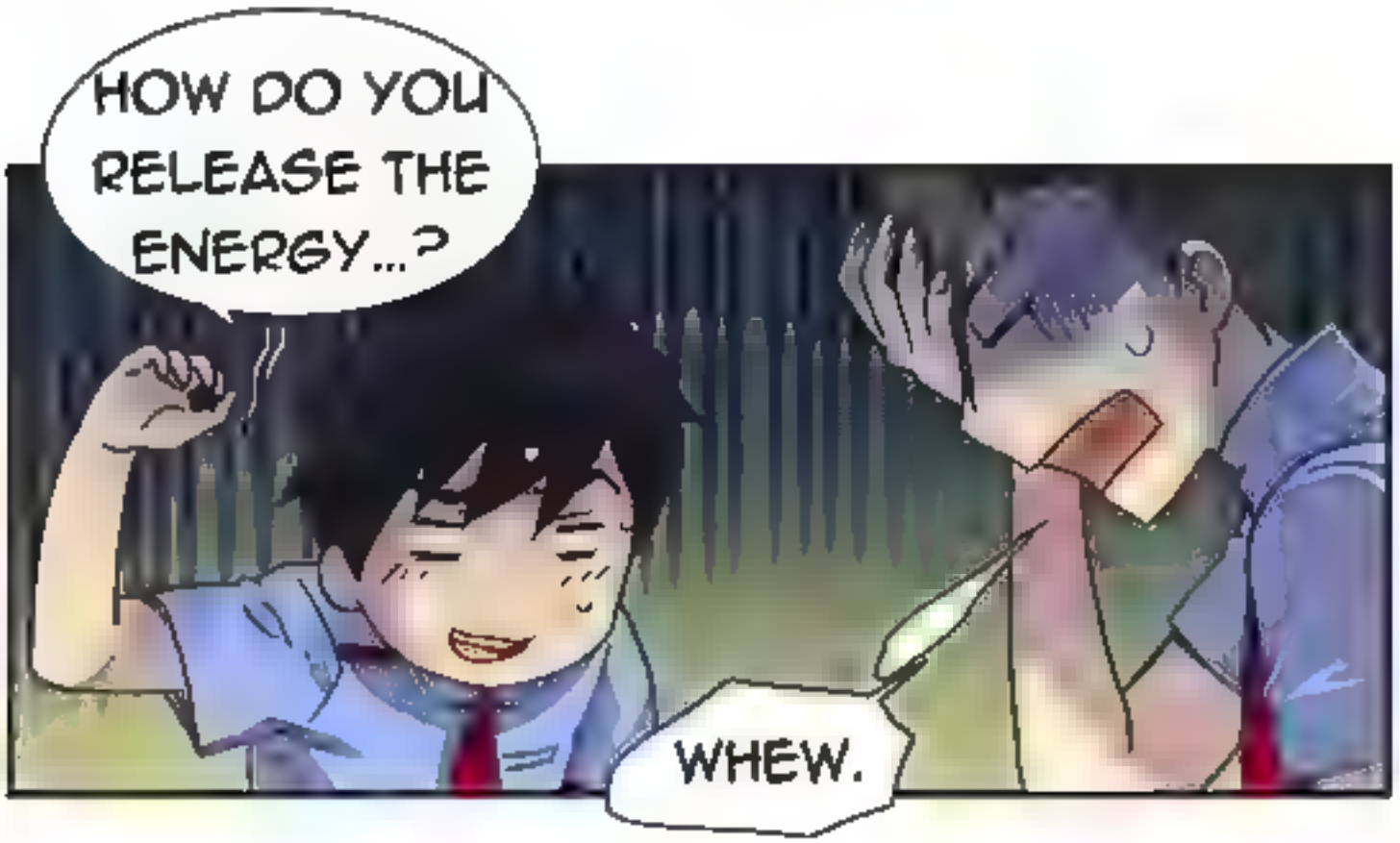

ALL OF A SUDDEN, IT'S SILENT AND STILL.
I'M IN... THE PROTECTED SPACE!

YOU CAN MAKE PROTECTED SPACE BY FOCUSING ON CREATING IT AND RELEASING THE ENERGY THROUGH YOUR HAND.
SHH
GETTING OUT IS THE OPPOSITE.

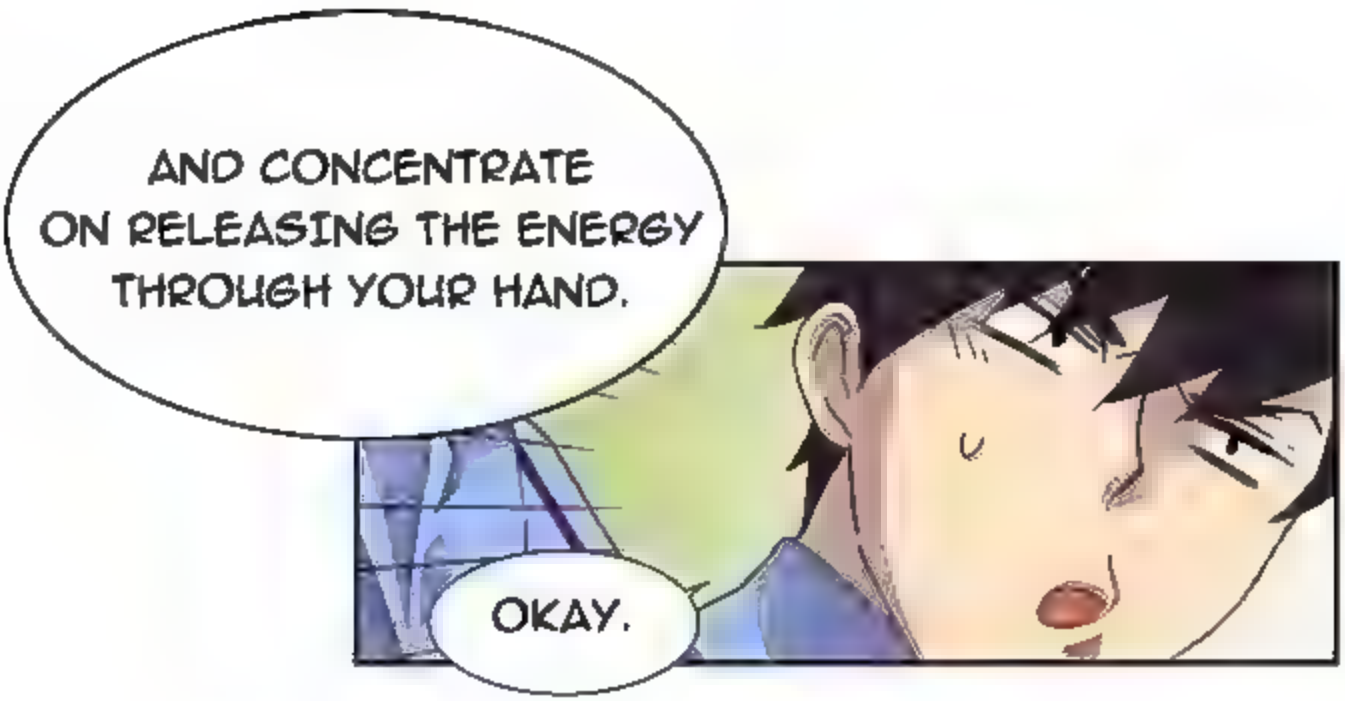

GETTING OUT?
YES, YOU JUST FOCUS ON LEAVING THE PROTECTED SPACE.
TRY!

SSH

AAAA
WIGGLE


HOW DO YOU RELEASE THE ENERGY...?
WHEW.

YOU REALLY DON'T KNOW ANYTHING, DO YOU?
GRAB
STRETCH YOUR FINGERS!


AND CONCENTRATE ON RELEASING THE ENERGY THROUGH YOUR HAND.
OKAY.

BEEP

A NEW SKILL IS CREATED
THROUGH A SPECIFIC ACTION.

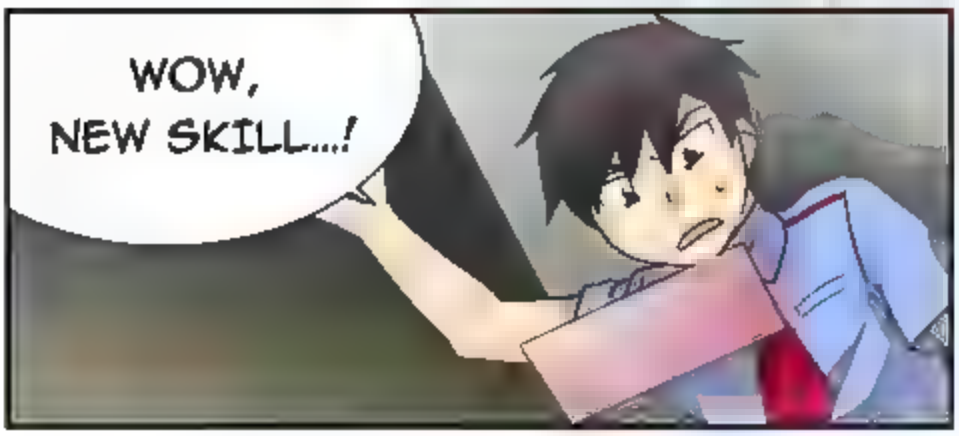
SHH

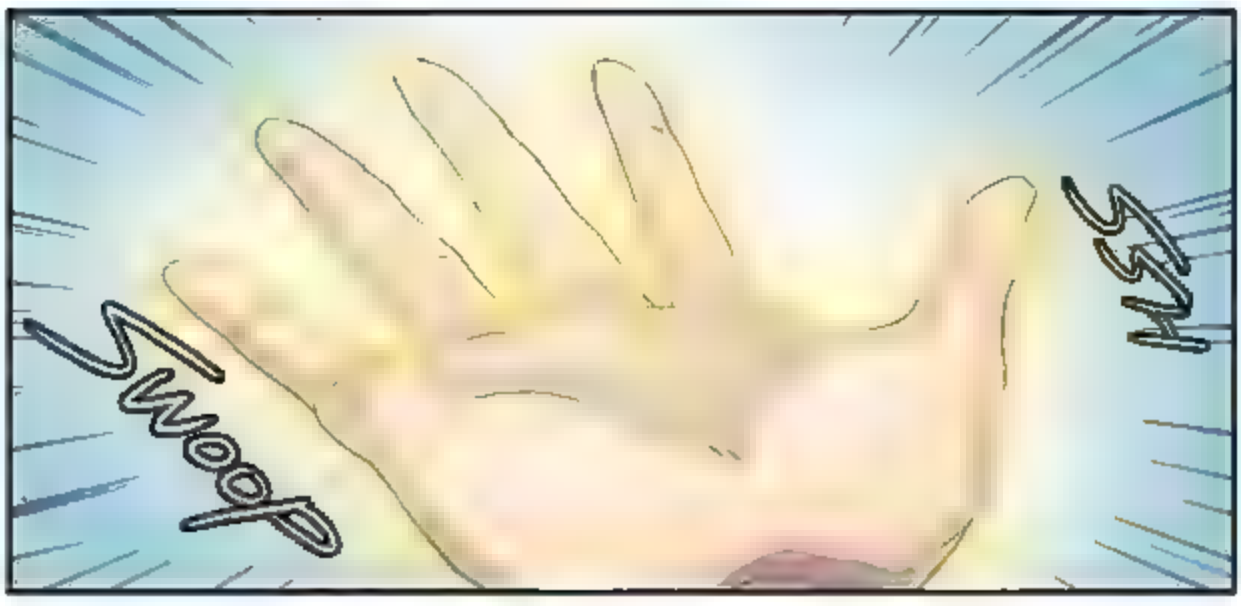
BEEP

A NEW SKILL IS CREATED
THROUGH A SPECIFIC ACTION.

BEEP

[MANA POWER ATTACK
(ACTIVE) LV 1 EXP: 0.0%]
A SKILL TO ATTACK WITH MANA.
IT'S LINKED TO INTELLIGENCE
AND IT INCREASES ATTACK POWER.
RANGE: 10M.




Swoop
Kiss

Flash
LET'S LEAVE.

LET'S LEAVE.
CRACK

BEEP

A NEW SKILL IS CREATED THROUGH A SPECIFIC ACTION.

BEEP

[ESCAPE FROM INSTANT DUNGEON] IS CREATED. IT HELPS YOU GET OUT OF THE INSTANT DUNGEON, WHICH IS ONE OF THE 'PROTECTED SPACES.

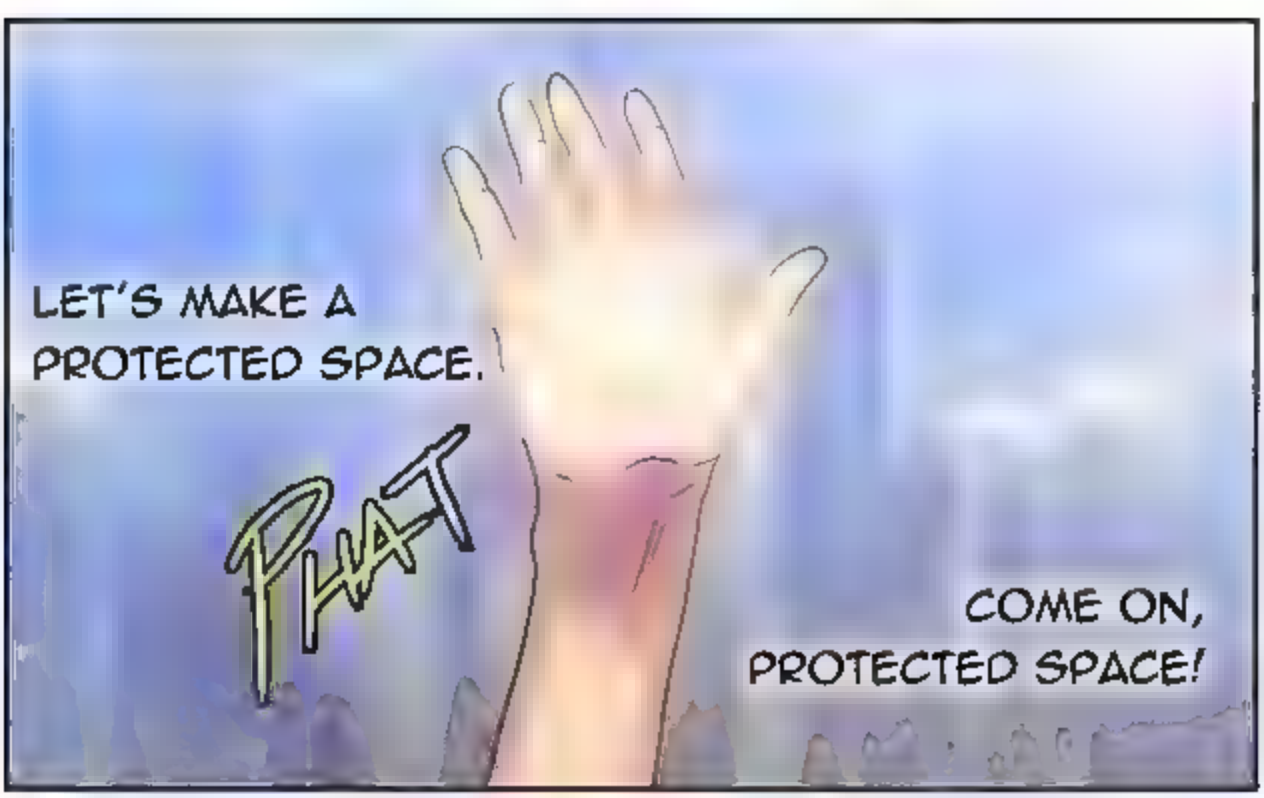
BEEP

[ESCAPE FROM INSTANT DUNGEON (ACTIVE) LV 1 EXP: 0.0%]
A SKILL TO GET OUT OF THE INSTANT DUNGEON.

THIS IS
ONE OF THE SKILLS!

NOW MAKE ONE.

OKAY.


LET'S MAKE A PROTECTED SPACE.
PHAT
COME ON, PROTECTED SPACE!

IT'S LIKE
THE WORLD IS DIFFERENT...

DID I JUST MAKE A
PROTECTED SPACE?

BEEP-

A NEW SKILL IS CREATED
THROUGH A SPECIFIC ACTION.

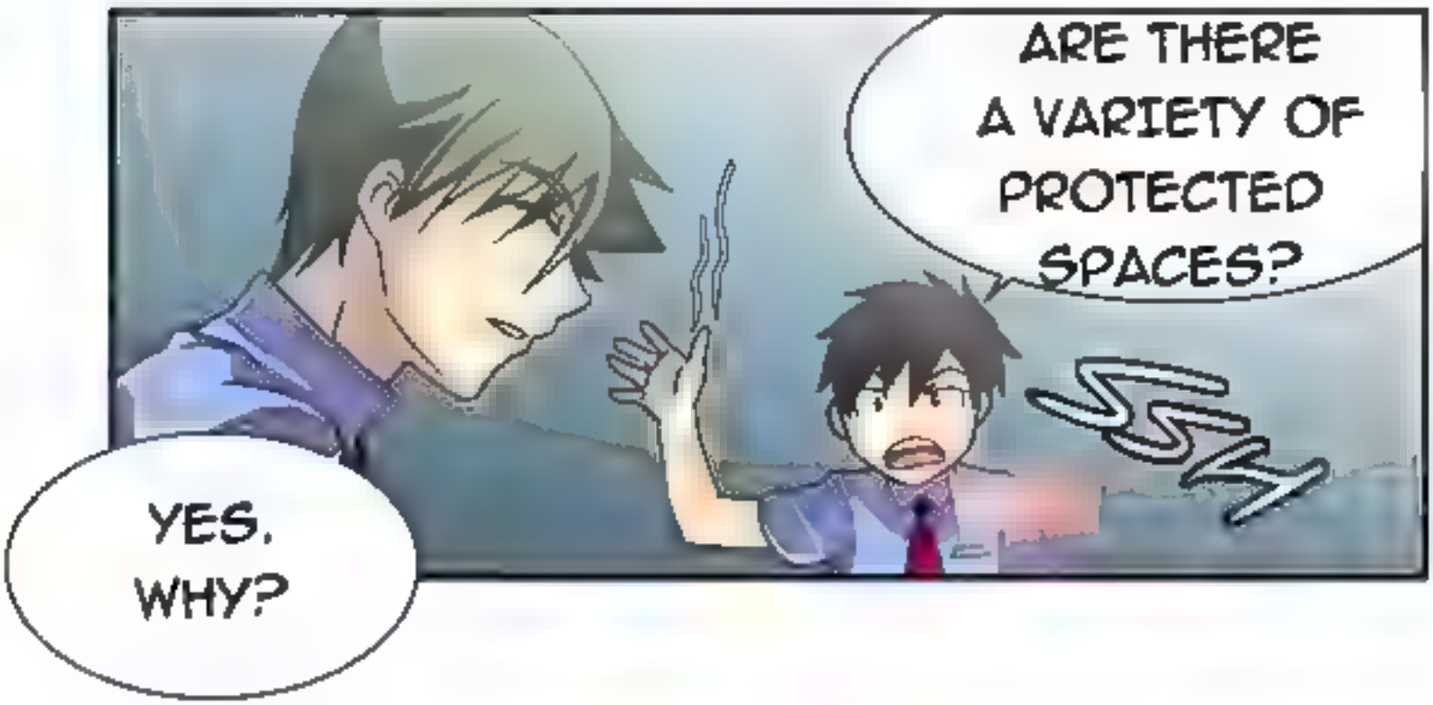
BEEP-

[MAKING INSTANT DUNGEON]
IS CREATED. IT HELPS YOU
MAKE AN INSTANT DUNGEON,
WHICH IS ONE OF
THE 'PROTECTED SPACES'.

BEEP-

[MAKING INSTANT DUNGEON
(ACTIVE) LV 1 EXP: 0.0%]
A SKILL TO MAKE AN INSTANT DUNGEON.
YOU CAN MAKE STRONGER ONES
BY INCREASING YOUR SKILL LEVEL.

INSTANT DUNGEON, WHICH IS ONE OF THE 'PROTECTED SPACES'?
[MAKING
CACTIVE]
A SKILL TO MAKE
YOU CAN MA
BY INCREASI


ARE THERE A VARIETY OF PROTECTED SPACES?
YES. WHY?

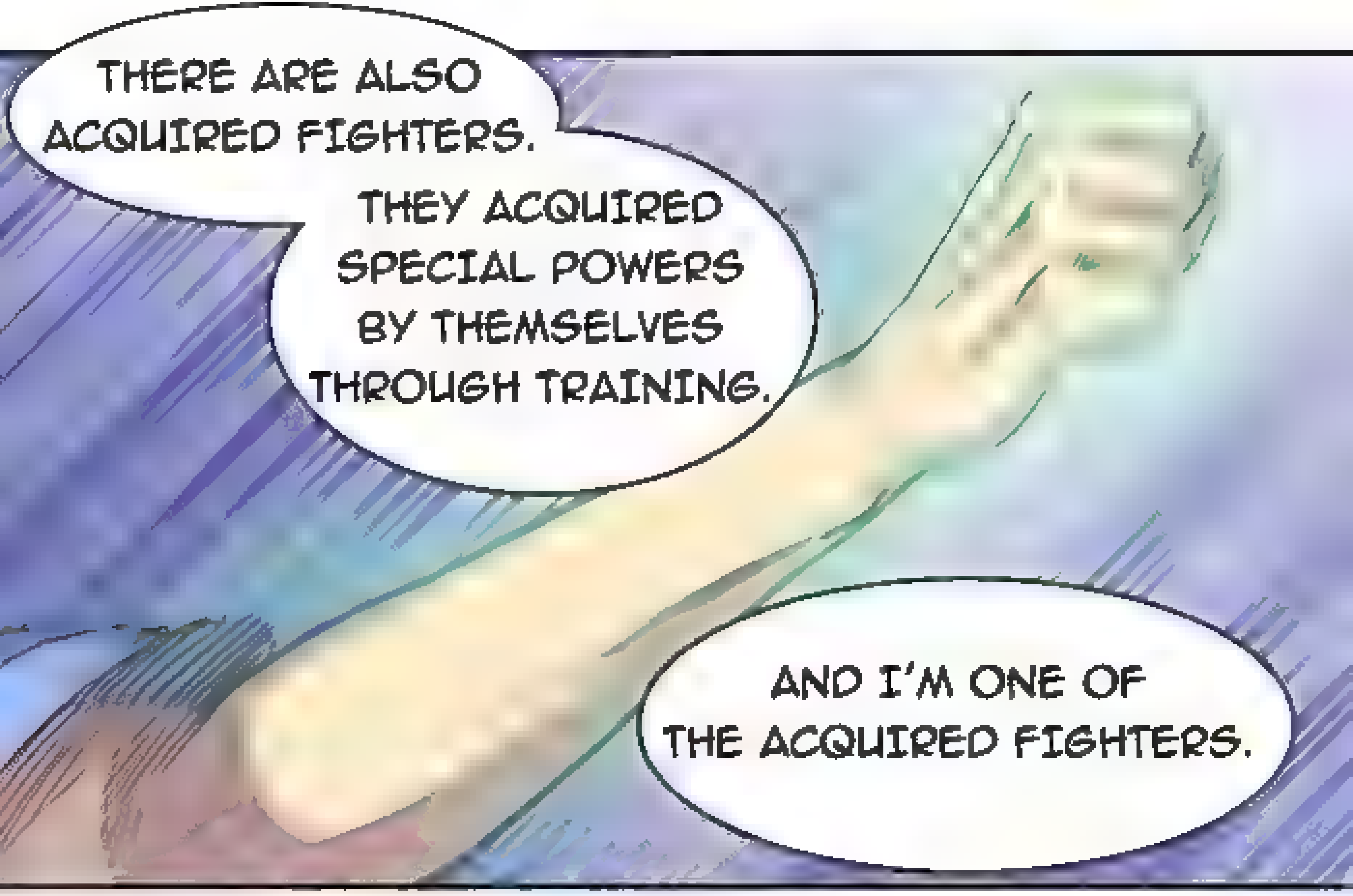
I JUST GOT THE 'MAKING INSTANT DUNGEON' SKILL.
GIGGLE
YOU'RE CALLING A PROTECTED SPACE 'AN INSTANT DUNGEON'? SILLY YOU...
SNICKER
?
ANYWAY THANK YOU FOR TEACHING ME THIS.
TAP

SMILE
NO PROBLEM.
SO WHAT'S YOUR PLAN NOW?
HUH?
YOU NEED TO THINK CAREFULLY.

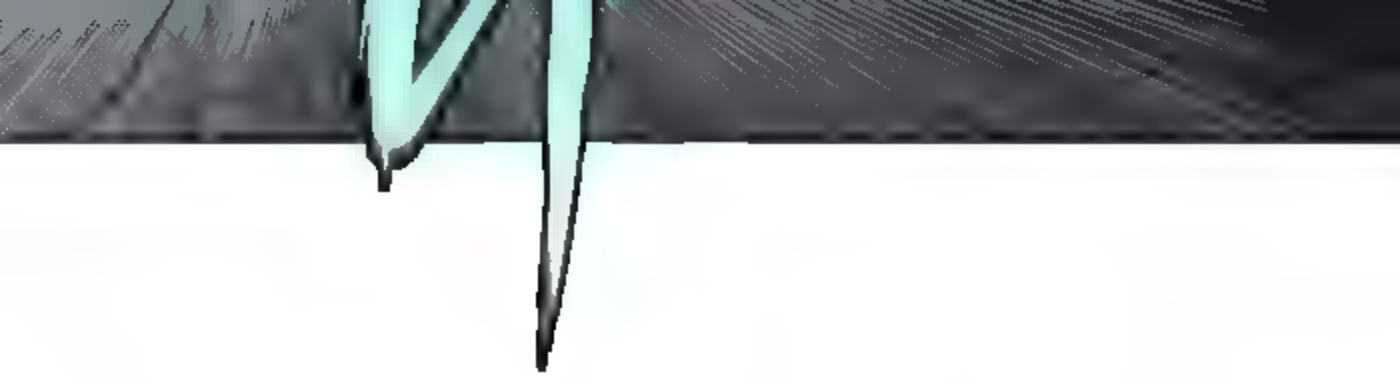
I TOLD YOU THERE ARE INNATE FIGHTERS.

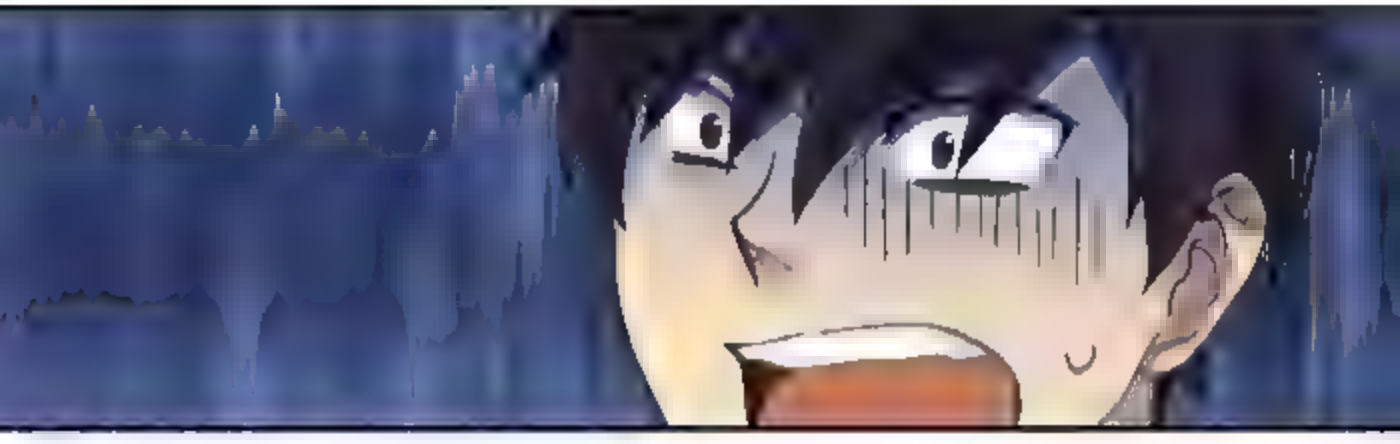
AND...?

DO YOU THINK THERE ARE ONLY INNATE ONES?


THERE ARE ALSO ACQUIRED FIGHTERS.
THEY ACQUIRED SPECIAL POWERS BY THEMSELVES THROUGH TRAINING.
AND I'M ONE OF THE ACQUIRED FIGHTERS.

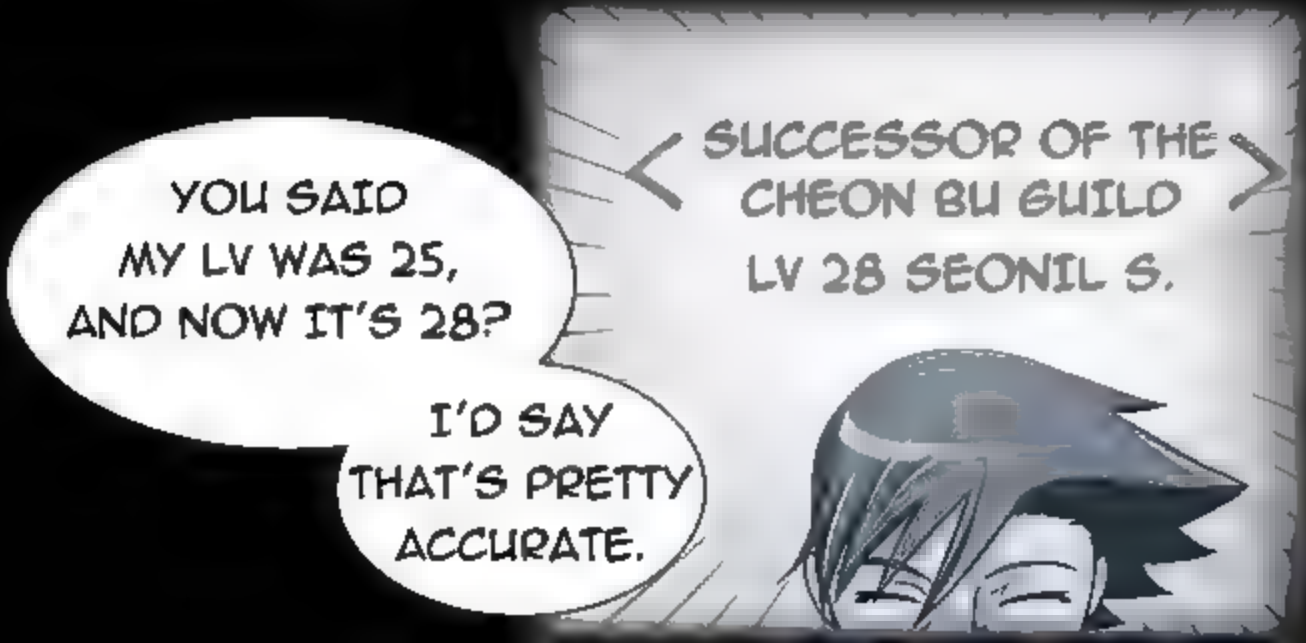
LOOK.





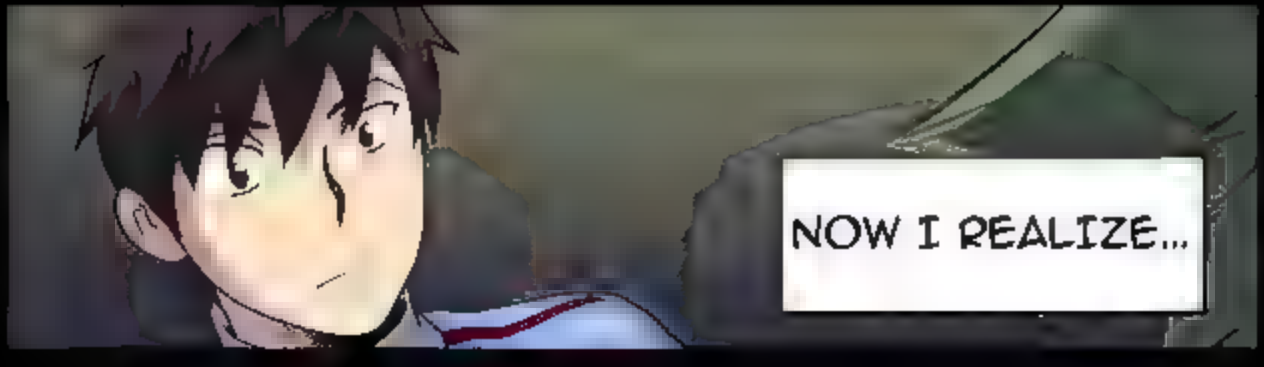
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
HUP!

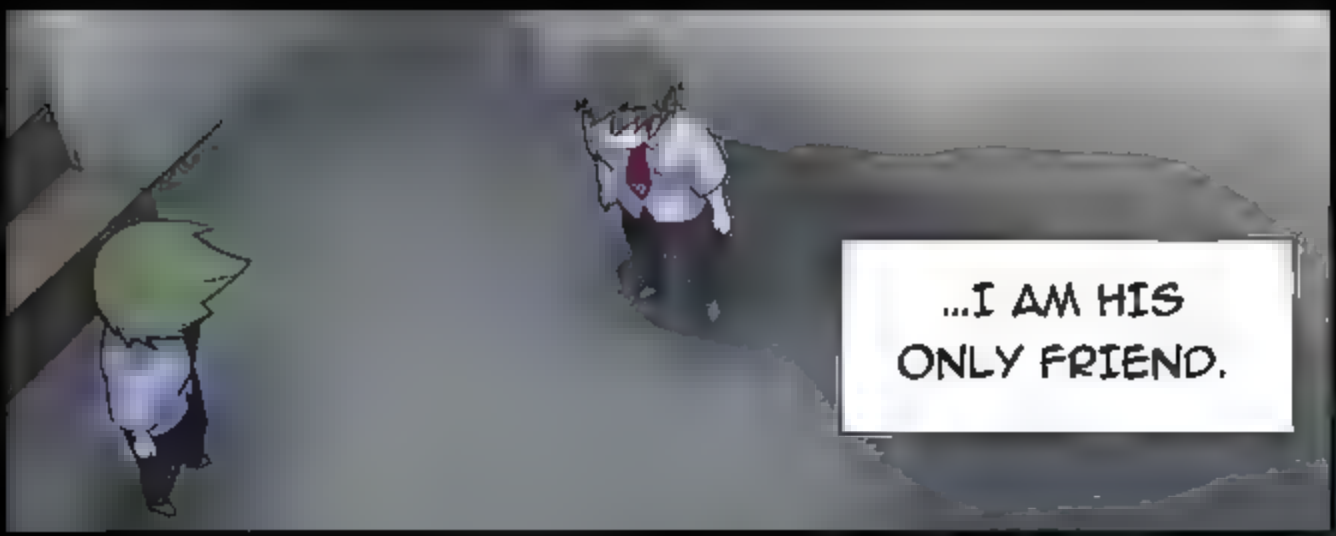
WELL, I'M NOT A TRUE ACQUIRED FIGHTER.
BECAUSE I'VE BEEN GOOD AT CONTROLLING ENERGY SINCE I WAS YOUNG.
BUT I HAD TO TRAIN MYSELF REALLY HARD TO BE POWERFUL.


YOU SAID MY LV WAS 25, AND NOW IT'S 28?
I'D SAY THAT'S PRETTY ACCURATE.
< SUCCESSOR OF THE CHEON BU GUILD LV 28 SEONIL S. >

BECAUSE I ACTUALLY BECAME STRONGER BY SPECIAL TRAINING.
I BELIEVE YOU...
HE JUST MADE A HOLE IN THE WALL.
WE'VE BEEN LIVING IN TOTALLY DIFFERENT WORLDS!
I WAS TOO ORDINARY FOR HIM...
HOW COULD OUR FRIENDSHIP HAVE MEANT ANYTHING TO HIM?

YOU SCARED?


NOW I REALIZE...



IT IS STRANGE.

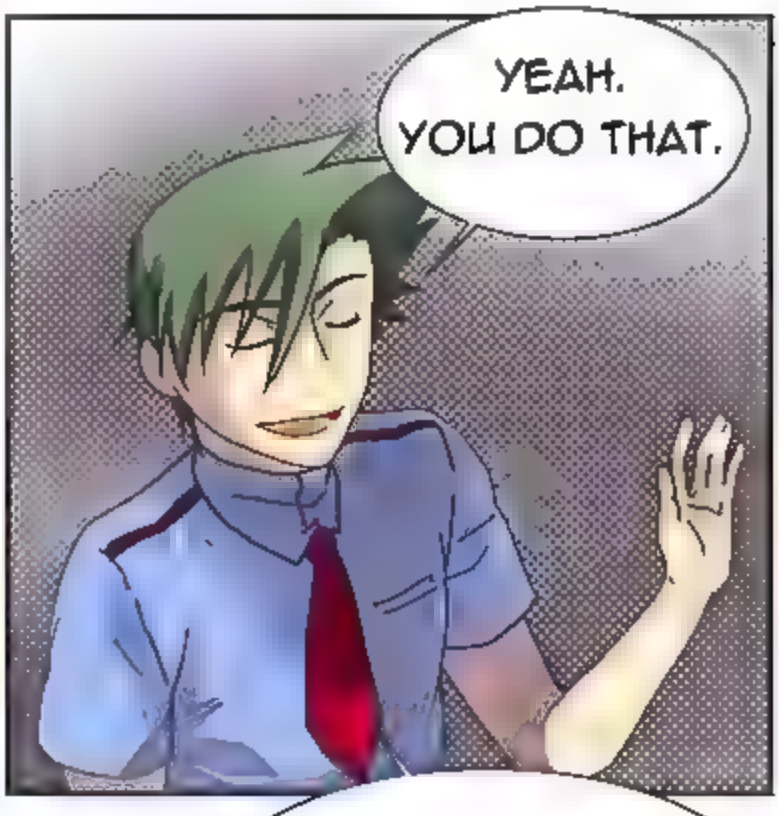
HE IS GOOD AND KIND,

BUT STILL... HE HAS NO FRIENDS OTHER THAN ME.

JUST ME.

NO WAY
I'M SCARED.

FAT
I WILL
INCREASE MY LEVEL
AND BEAT YOU.



NOW ANSWER
MY QUESTION.

WHAT
QUESTION?

I ASKED YOU
ABOUT YOUR PLAN.

YOU SHOULD KNOW
THE THINGS I'VE
BEEN TELLING YOU
ARE JUST THE BEGINNING.

OH, PLEASE...

THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT.

BOTH INNATE FIGHTERS AND ACQUIRED FIGHTERS ARE DOING VARIOUS THINGS WITH THEIR POWERS,

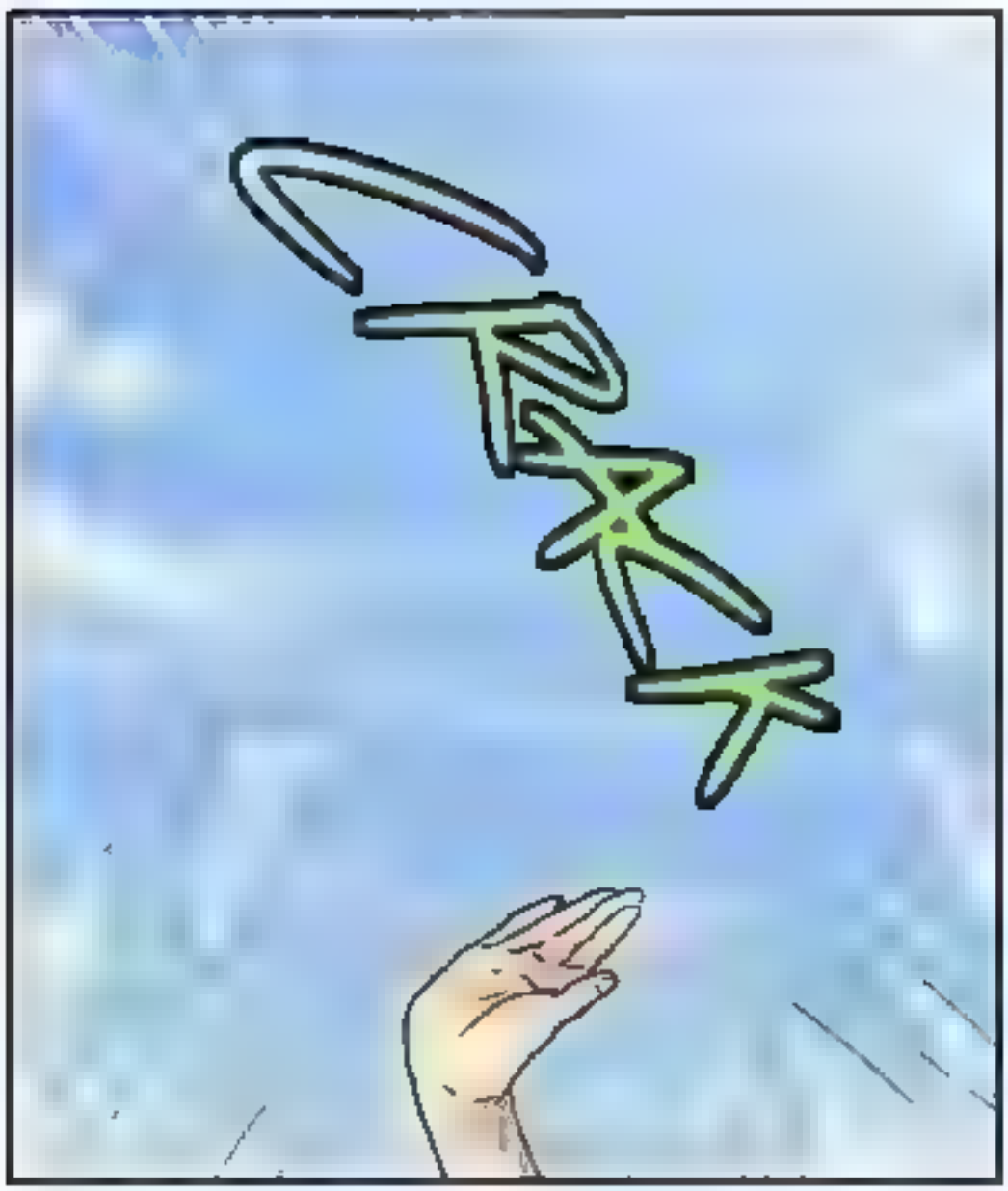
AND MOST OF IT IS ILLEGAL.

NOW THAT YOU HAVE YOUR POWER, YOU WILL BE INVOLVED IN WHAT THEY DO WHETHER YOU WANT TO OR NOT.

JUST LIKE YOU WERE DRAGGED INTO THE PROTECTED SPACE THE DARK SUMMONER MADE.
NOD
YES...
IF YOU WANT A NORMAL LIFE, DON'T INCREASE LEVELS ANY MORE.
IF YOU STILL WANT TO INCREASE YOUR POWER, YOU BETTER START PREPARING.
OTHERWISE, YOU WILL DIE.

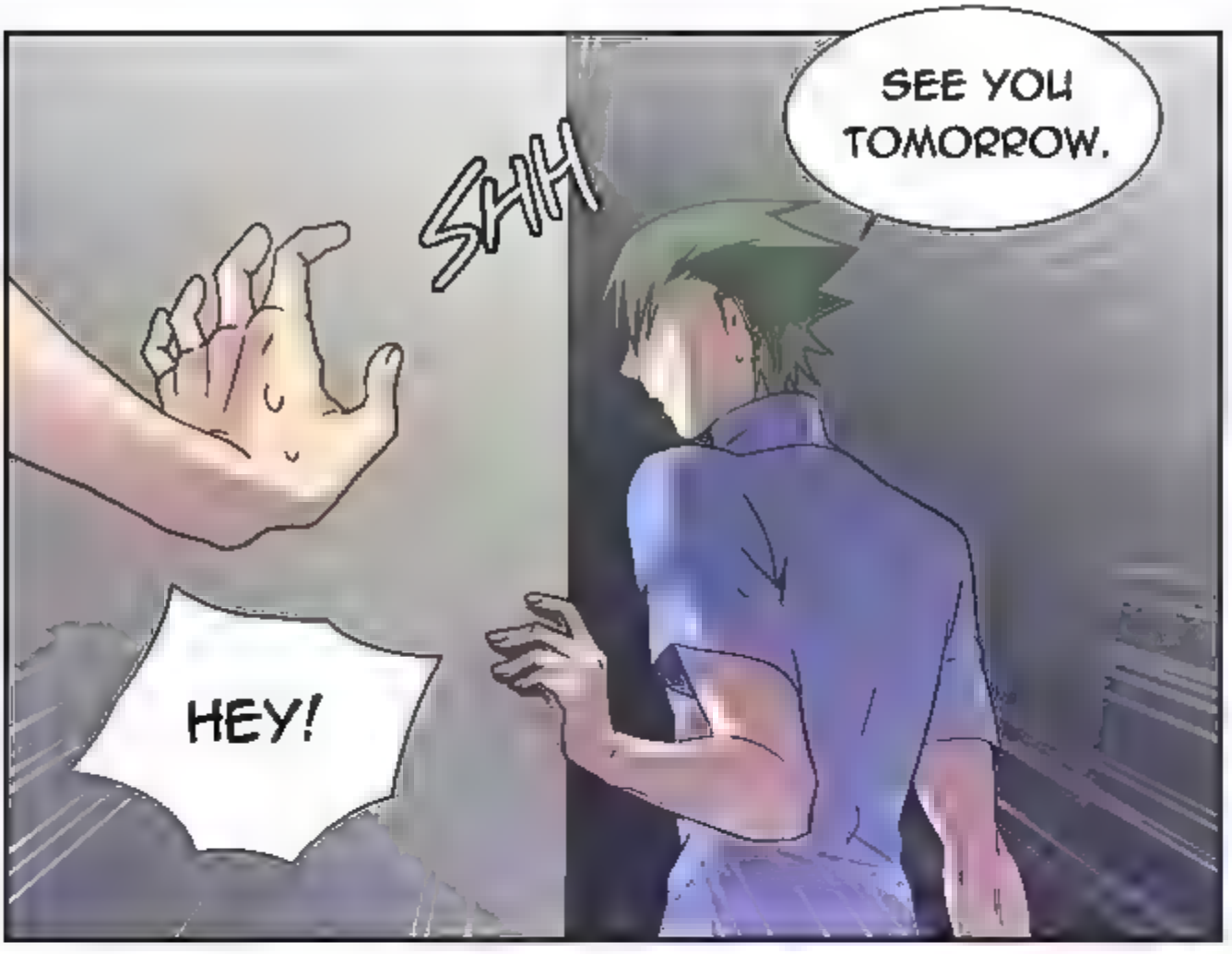
THAT'S THE ONLY WAY TO SURVIVE
IN THIS 'ABYSS'.

SWOOP
SHH


CRACK

DON'T GO OUT TONIGHT.

I'LL TAKE CARE OF THE DARK SUMMONER.


SEE YOU TOMORROW.
SHH
HEY!

WAIT...
IS HE SERIOUS...?

THE GAMER

STORY BY SANGYOUNG SEONG

ILLUST BY SANG-A

LINE Webtoon

PEOPLE SOMETIMES GROW UP WHEN THEY FACE UNEXPECTED ADVERSITY.

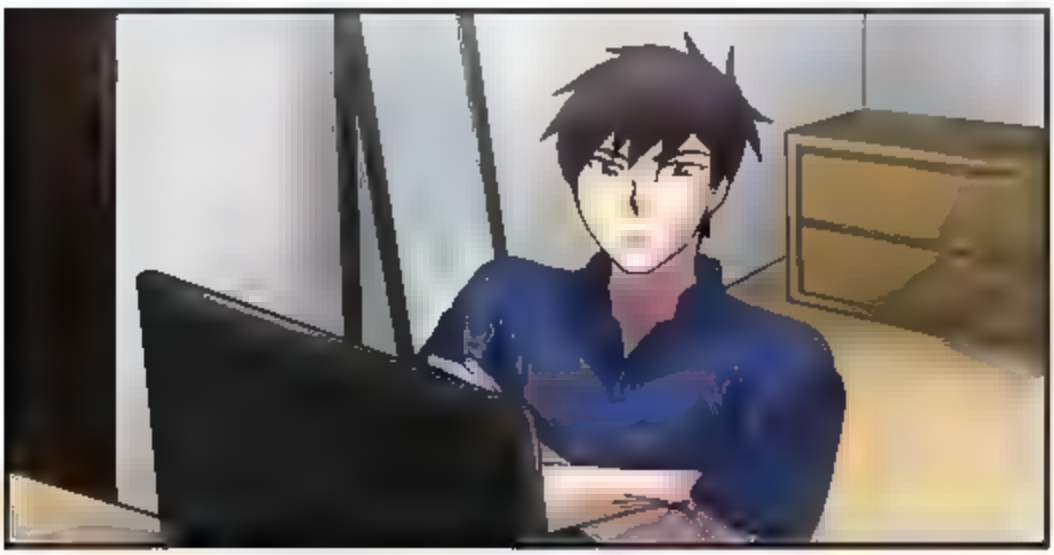
- ADVENTURER UNKNOWN

THE GAMER

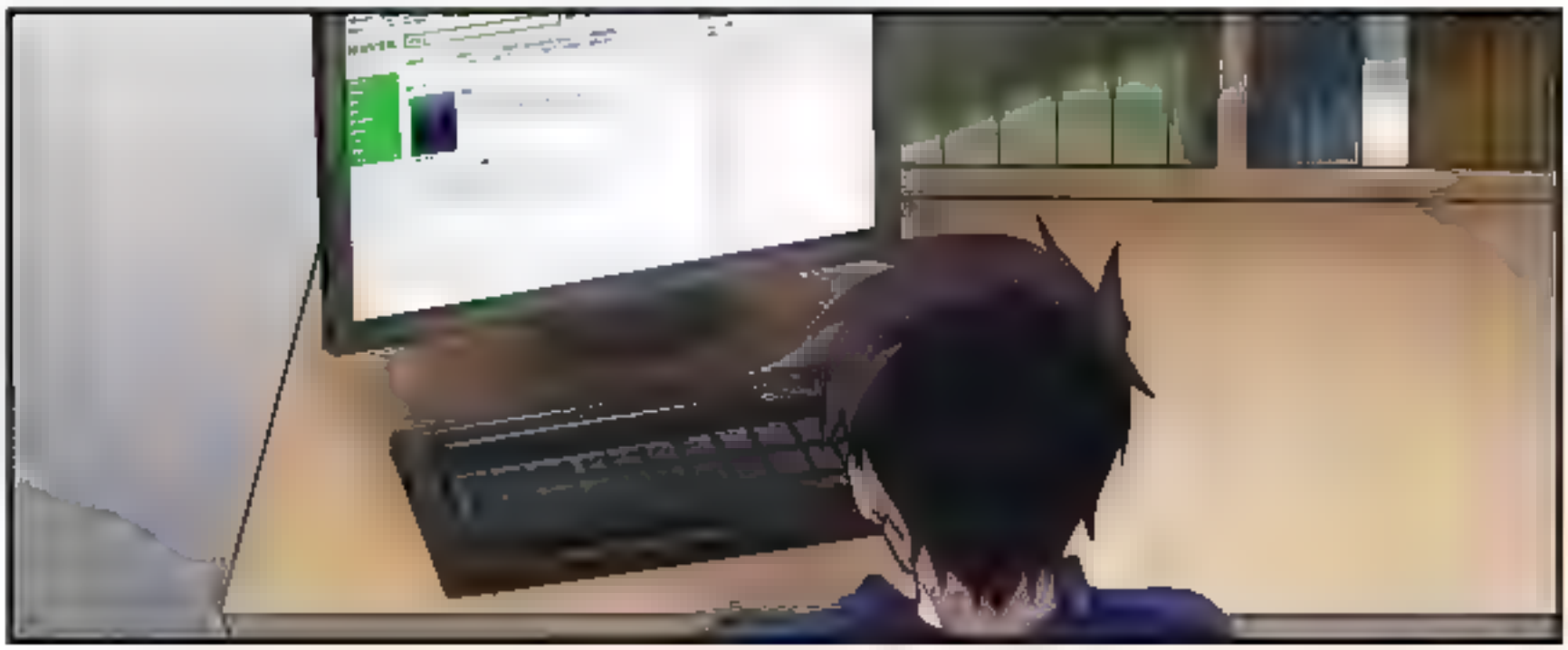
STORY BY SANGYOUNG SEONG

ILLUST BY SANG-A

CHAPTER 1
LEVEL UP



ABYSS...



DICTIONARY

ENGLISH

ABYSS [æbɪs]

[NOUN] [LITERARY] AN ABYSS IS A VERY DEEP HOLE IN THE GROUND.

[EXAMPLE] THE EARTHQUAKE OPENED UP A HUGE ABYSS.

A VERY DEEP HOLE..
IT'S JUST A
DICTIONARY
DEFINITION.

BUT, I KNOW
IT ALSO HAS
DIFFERENT MEANINGS.

SOMETIMES
IT MEANS HELL,
A SEALED SPACE OR...

A CHAOTIC WORLD.

WHEN SEONIL MENTIONED THE ABYSS, HE PROBABLY MEANT THE FIGHTERS' SOCIETY.

HE WAS WORRIED ABOUT ME...

IN THE ABYSS, THEY KILL OR GET KILLED.
SO HE DIDN'T WANT ME TO BE IN DANGER.

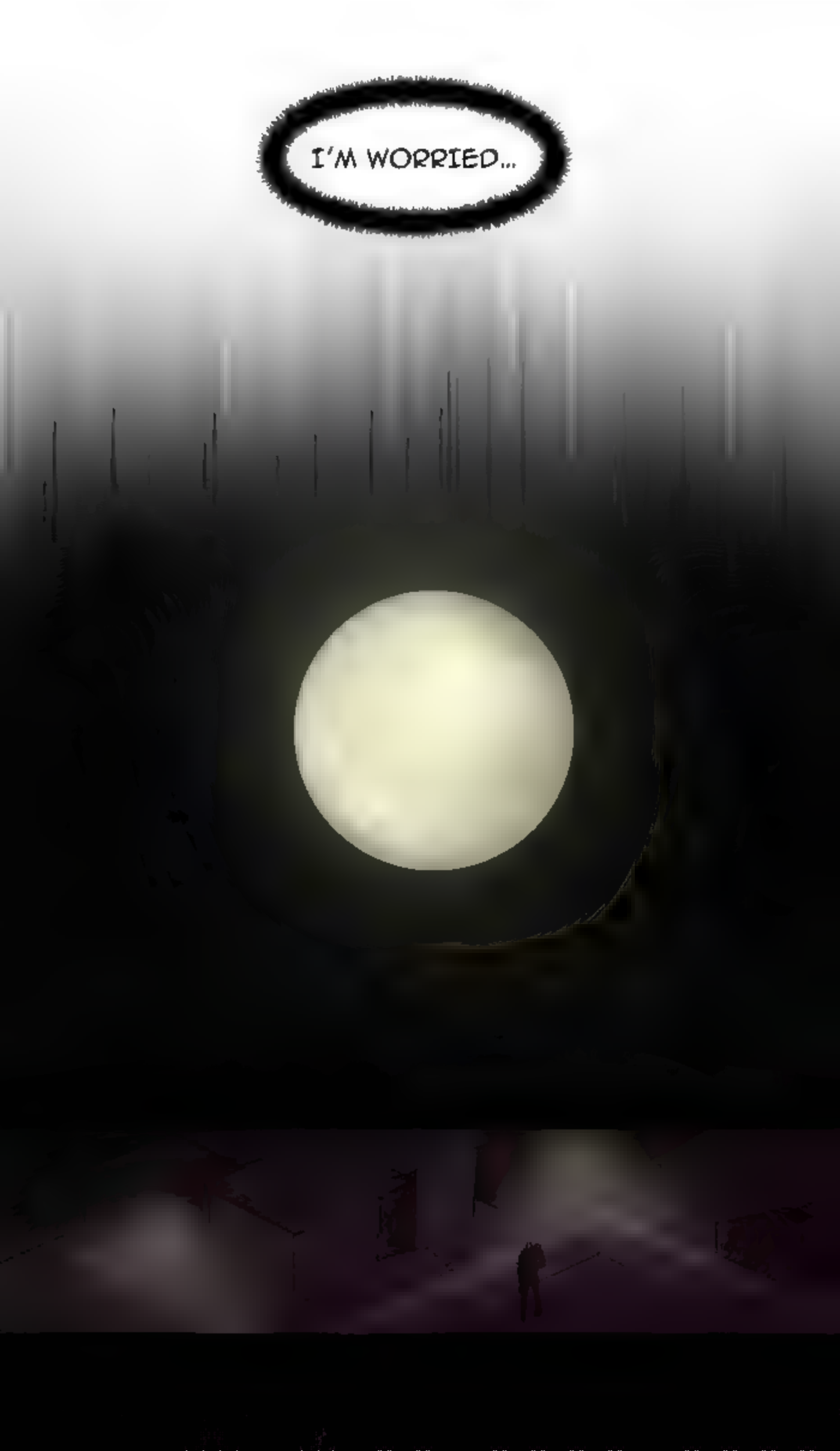
WELL, I DON'T WANT TO GET INVOLVED ANYWAY.

I DON'T WANT TO DIE.

BUT I'M STILL GOING TO INCREASE MY LEVEL.

NOT BECAUSE I WANT TO FIGHT,

BUT BECAUSE I NEED TO LEVEL UP IN ORDER TO SUCCEED IN LIFE, ANYWAY.


I'M WORRIED...

YOU KNOW WHAT?
IT'S HARD TO FIND A CAPITAL SURROUNDED BY MOUNTAINS THE WAY IT IS HERE IN SEOUL.

I DIDN'T KNOW THAT.
WELL, IT'S NICE.
WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?
THIS IS NOT YOUR DOMAIN.

BUT, IT'S STILL OUR TERRITORY.

SHH

THE YEON HON GUILD,
THE CHEON BU GUILD
AND THE EXISTENCE EATERS.
ALL OF THEM
SHARE THIS MIDDLE AREA.
ISN'T THAT THE DEAL?
AM I WRONG?

BUT IT DOESN'T MEAN THAT WE ALLOW AN OURSIDER TO RUN WILD AS HE PLEASES.
THE EXISTENCE EATERS...
...I MEAN IRREGULAR WIZARDS ALREADY GAVE ME PERMISSION.
SO I THINK I'M FINE.

IF YOU THINK
THAT'S ALL YOU NEED
TO DO WHATEVER
YOU'RE DOING...

I HAVE TO SAY
IT'S A BIG MISTAKE.

REALLY?

WELL...
I DON'T CARE.

I DON'T THINK YOU CAN STOP ME ANYWAY.

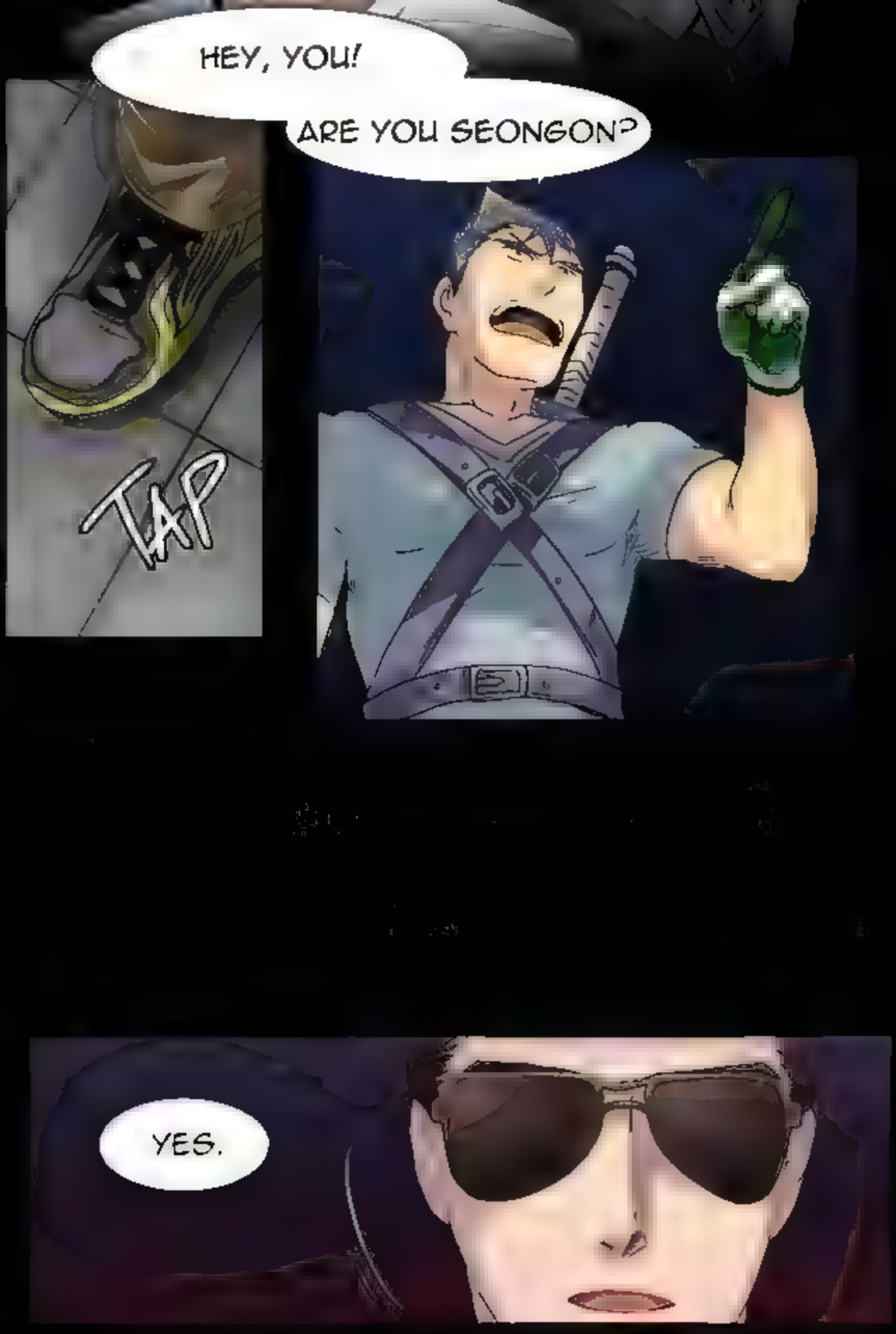
WHO SAID I'M HERE ALONE?

SWOOP

SWOOP

MEET SPIRIT OF WIND
AND SPIRIT OF RAIN.

SPIRITS OF WIND AND RAIN...
I HEARD THERE ARE 4 DIFFERENT CLASSES DISTINGUISHING STRENGTH IN THE CHEON BU GUILD.
HUMAN. GHOST. SPIRIT. NUMEN.
SO YOU TWO ARE IN THE 3RD CLASS, RIGHT?


HEY, YOU!
ARE YOU SEONGON?
TAP
YES.

I HEARD THAT
YOU ARE BUILDING YOUR
SUMMONING SKILL.

BUT,
I'M WARNING YOU.
YOU ARE NOT STRONG ENOUGH
TO FIGHT WITH US.
GO GET MORE TRAINING!

STOP IT

WE ARE HAVING A CONVERSATION.
THERE'S BEEN ENOUGH TALKING.
I DO NOT LIKE HIS ATTITUDE! DO YOU!?

STOP IT.

SEONGON.
I'M GIVING YOU ONE
LAST CHANCE.

TELL ME
WHAT YOUR
PLAN IS.

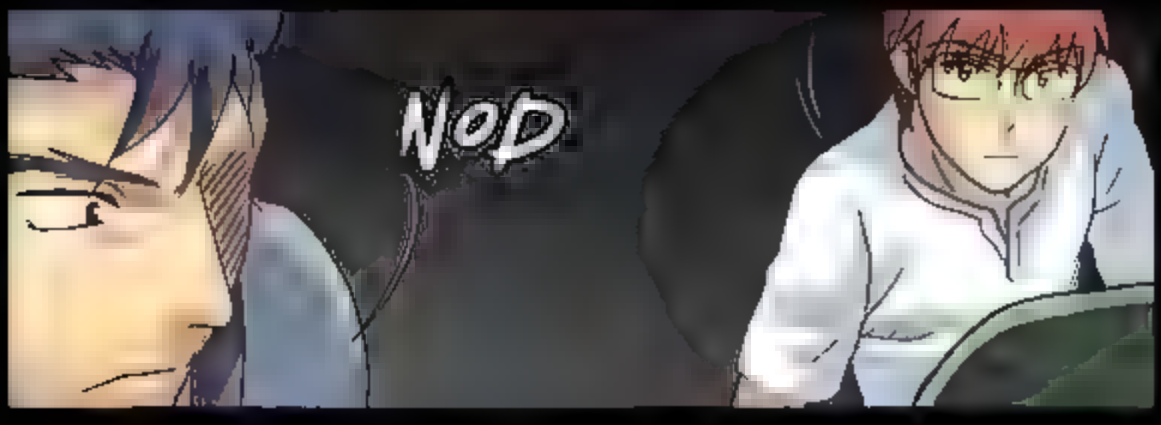
AND FORGET ABOUT IT,
THEN I WILL
LET YOU WALK AWAY

HA...HA! HA!

HA-HAHAHA

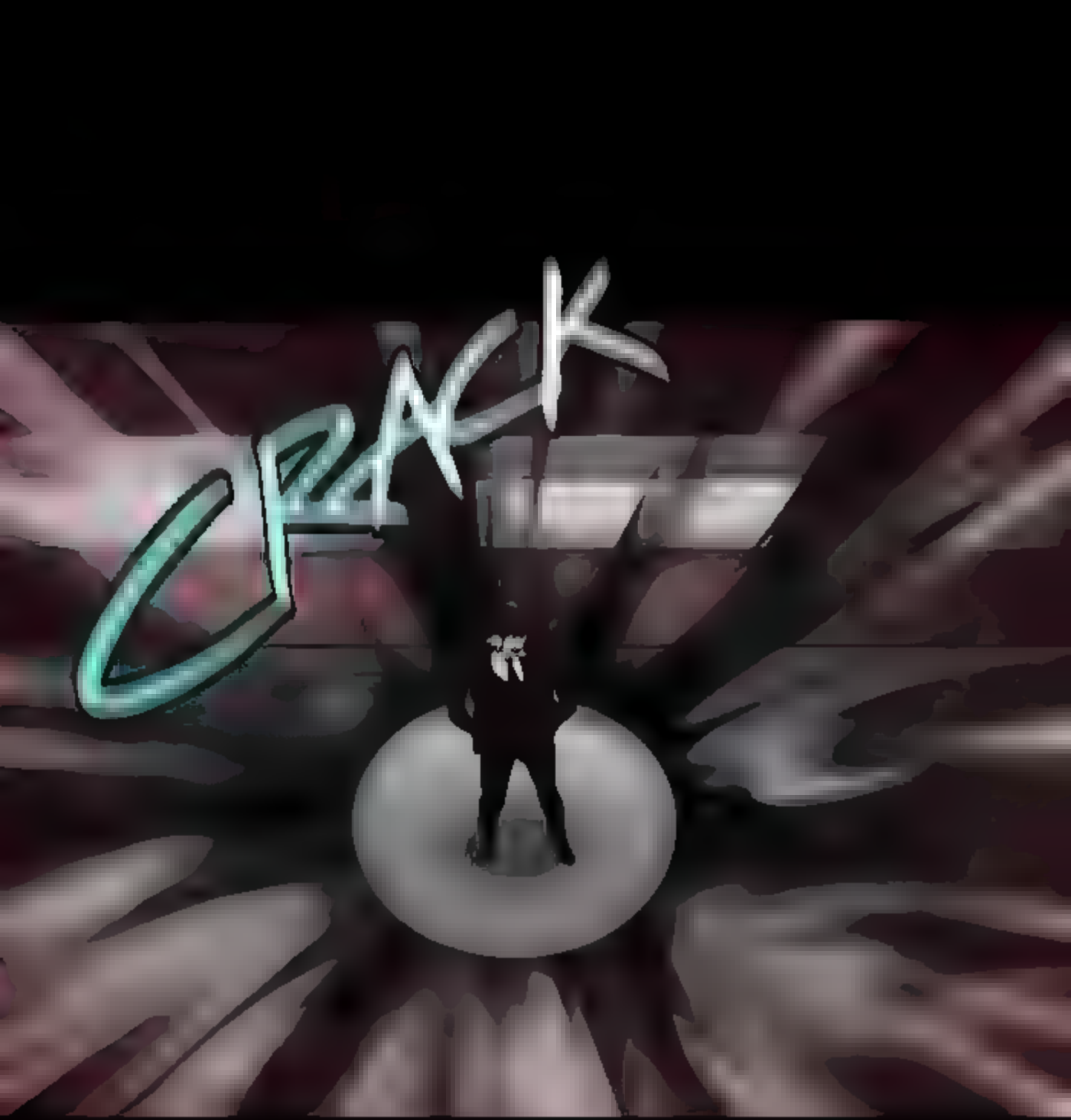
HA - HAHAHA
WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF THERE WAS SOMETHING MORE IMPORTANT TO YOU THAN YOUR LIFE?

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
TELL ME! IF THERE WAS SOMETHING MORE VALUABLE THAN YOUR LIFE,
AND YOU HAD TO RISK YOUR LIFE TO PROTECT IT, WHAT WOULD YOU DO!?


NOD

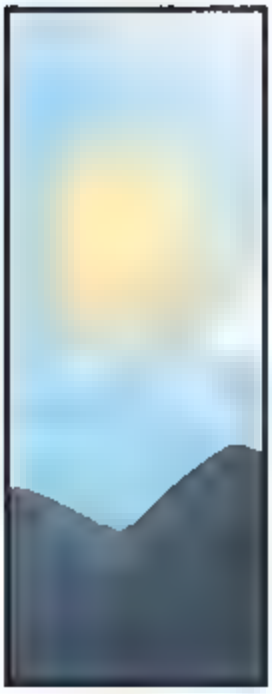
SWISH
SWISH

IF THAT' WERE THE CASE, THERE'D ONLY BE ONE ANSWER.
RISK YOUR LIFE. RIGHT?


CRACK

COME ON.
WIGGLE
WIGGLE
YOU THINK YOU ARE...
WIGGLE
...STRONG ENOUGH TO FIGHT WITH ME?

THE GAMER

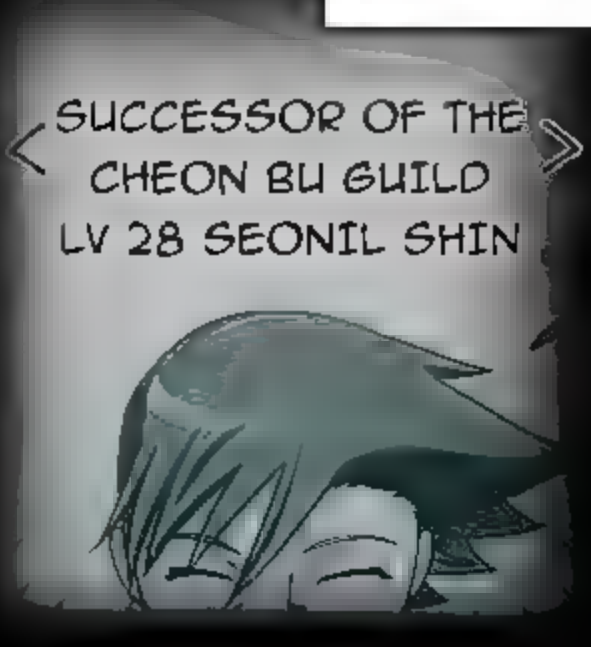


EH? SEONIL IS ABSENT TODAY?
HE SAID HE CAUGHT A BAD COLD.
COME ON...
HE'S THE SUCCESSOR OF THE CHEON BU GUILD AND HE HAS SUPERPOWERS.

THERE'S NO WAY HE CAUGHT A COLD.

HE SAID HE'D TAKE CARE OF THE DARK SUMMONER...

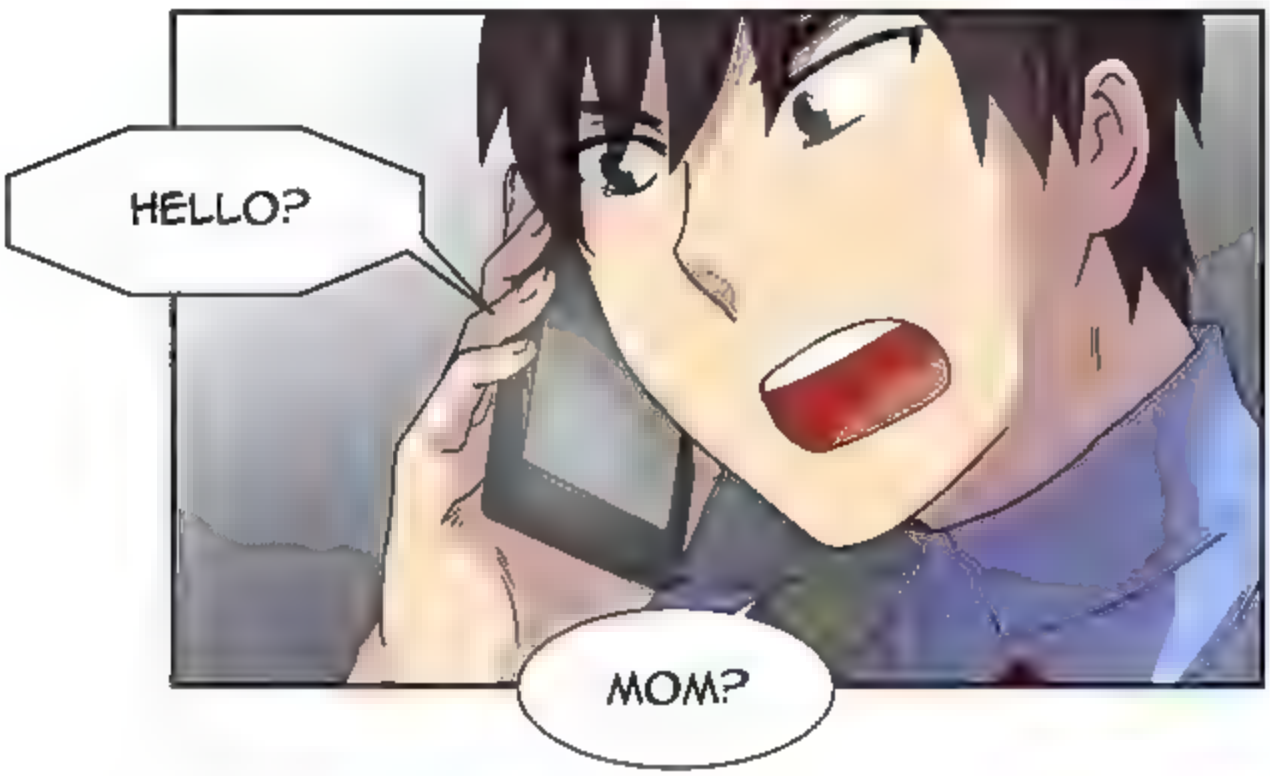
I KNOW SEONIL'S LEVEL IS LOWER THAN SEONGON'S.



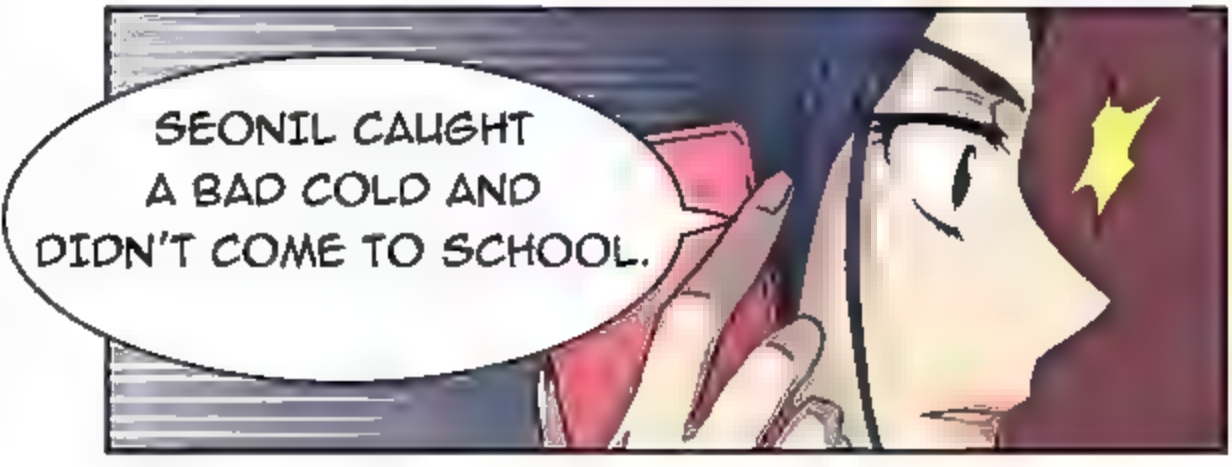
BUT HE'S THE SUCCESSOR OF THE CHEON BU GUILD!
HE MUST BE VERY STRONG IF HE IS A SUCCESSOR.
YET, HE IS ABSENT TODAY...
TAP
I SHOULD VISIT HIM NOW...

OH, MOM!
SHH

RING


HELLO?
MOM?

JIHAN, IS EVERYTHING OK?
YEAH, IT'S JUST... I'LL BE LATE FOR TUTORING TODAY.
WHAT ARE YOU TAKING ABOUT?
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW MUCH IT IS?
BUT, MOM...


SEONIL CAUGHT A BAD COLD AND DIDN'T COME TO SCHOOL.

...REALLY?
YES. SO I'M GOING TO HIS HOUSE.
I'LL STILL TRY NOT TO BE LATE.
OK, THEN. SEE YOU SOON.
OK. BYE.
D-DING
.....

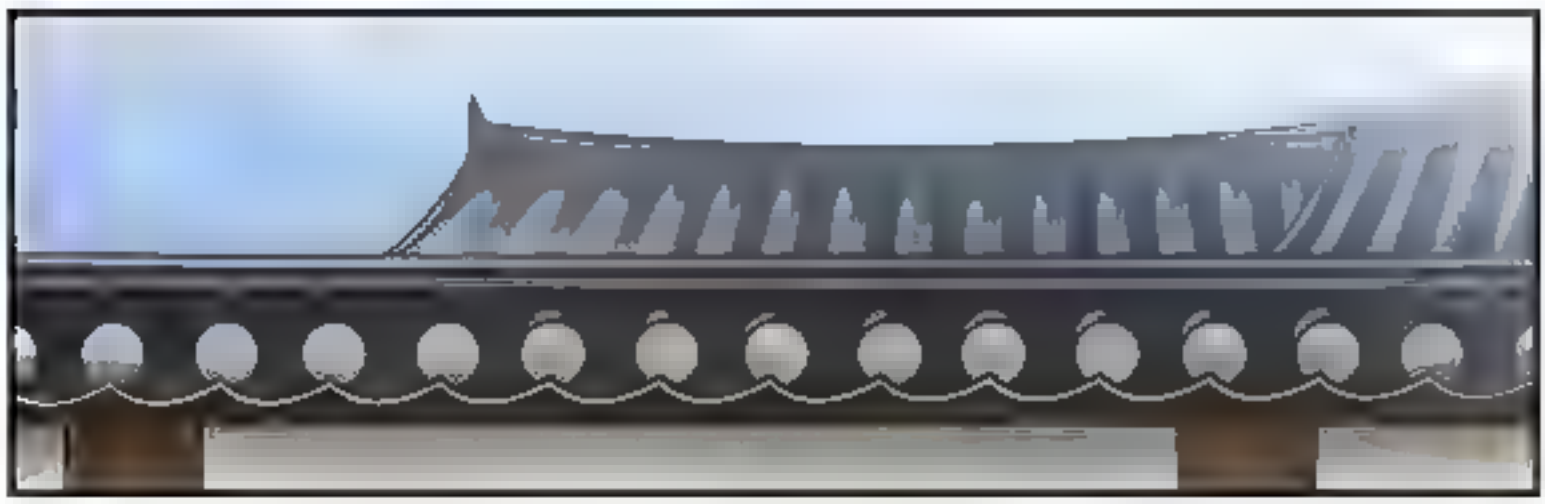
LV?? JEONGSOOK H.
<????>

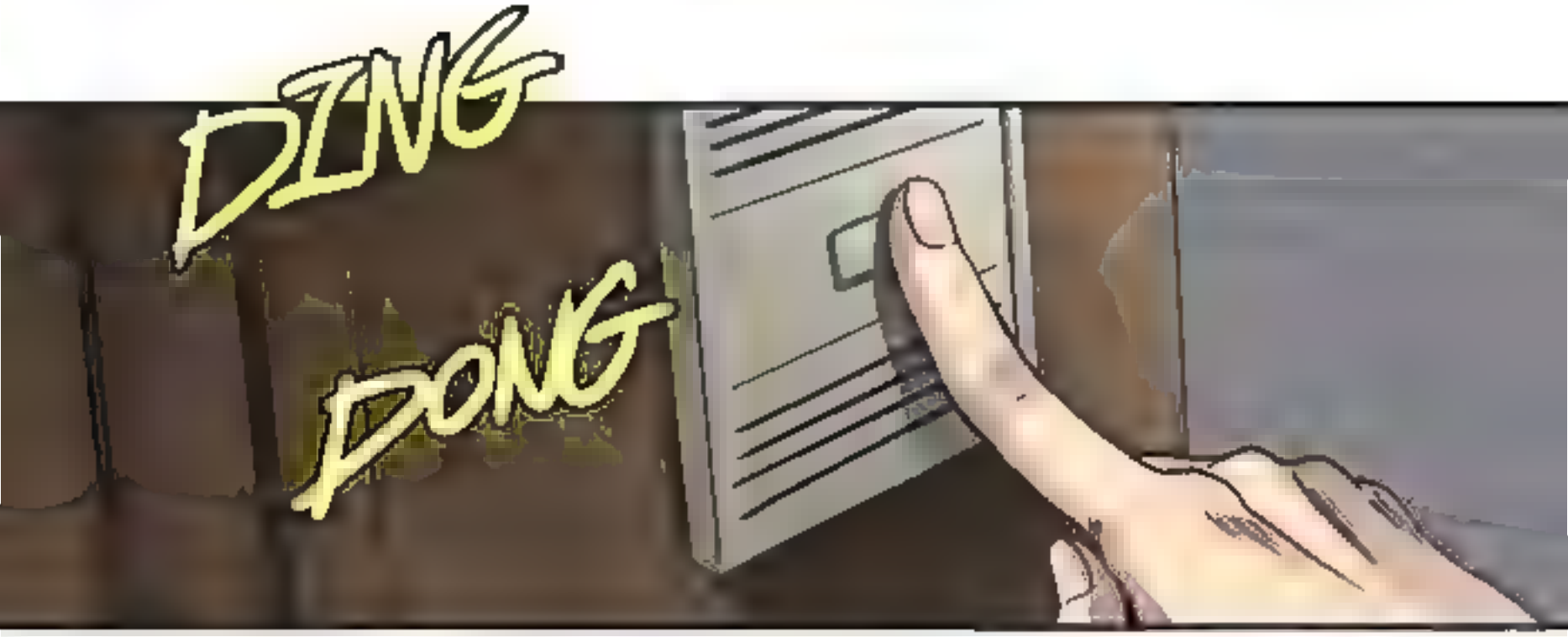
WELL, MOM HAS QUESTION MARKS OVER HER HEAD.

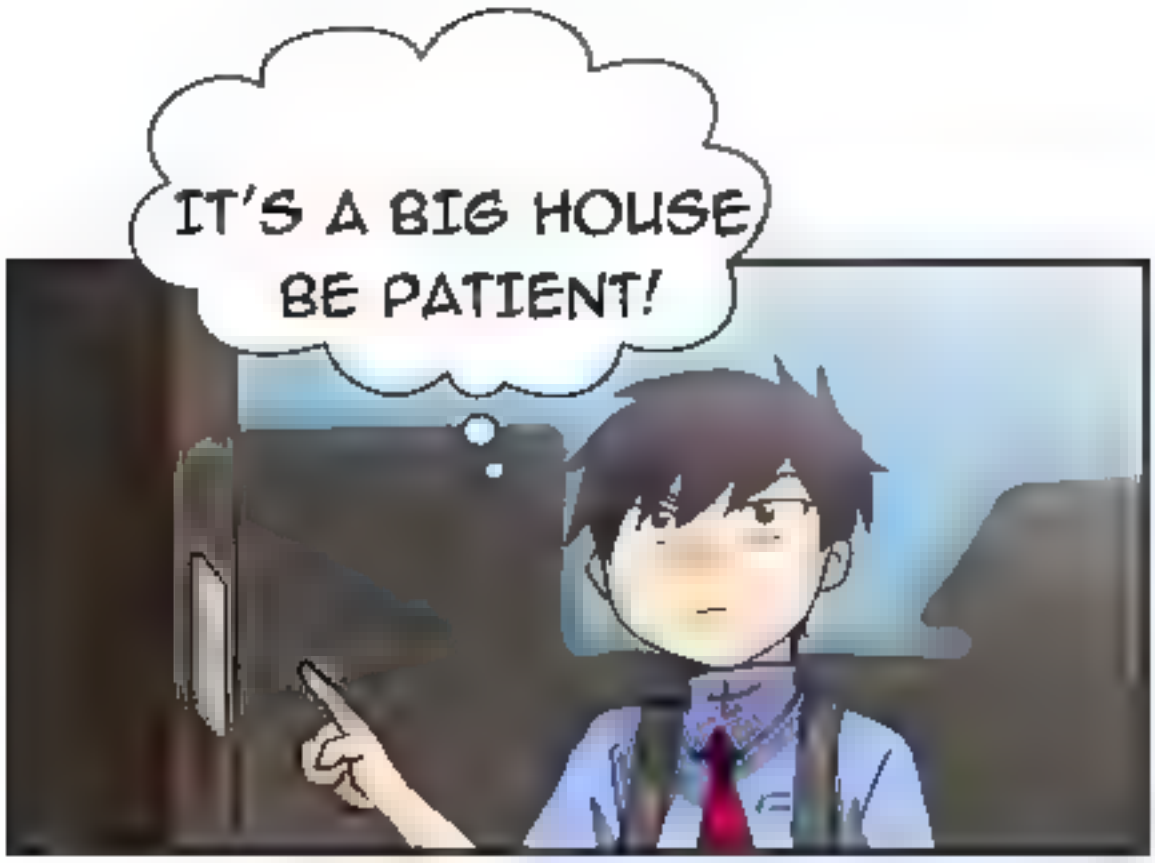
MAYBE SHE'S HIDING SOMETHING...

EVERYTHING
I BELIEVED TO BE TRUE...

COULD IT ALL BE
A PACK OF LIES?




DING
DONG


IT'S A BIG HOUSE
BE PATIENT!

IT'S A REALLY OLD BUILDING.

HE ONLY GOT THIS DOOR BELL 5 YEARS AGO.
...

SEONIL DIDN'T HAVE A COMPUTER WHEN WE WERE IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.

SO I REMEMBER TEACHING HIM HOW TO USE THE COMPUTER.

I THOUGHT IT WAS STRANGE THAT HE DIDN'T HAVE ANY ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT,

BUT NOW... I THINK I UNDERSTAND.

CHEON BU GUILD.

I'M NOT SURE WHAT IT MEANS BUT I'M GUESSING IT'S A GUILD FOR TRAINING SUPERPOWERS.

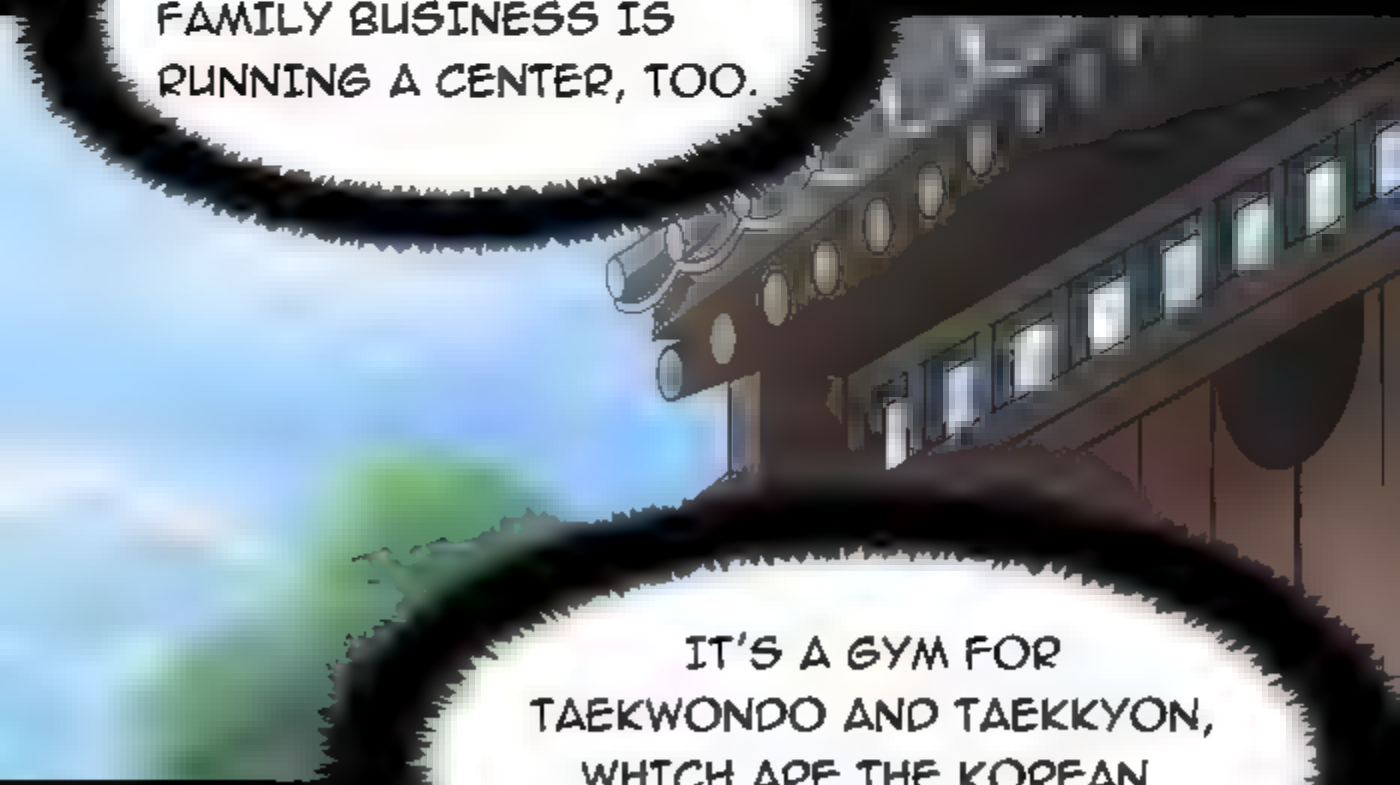
GUILD.

IN GAME TERMS, A GUILD MEANS AN ORGANIZATION FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE THE SAME INTERESTS OR AIMS.

ANOTHER NAME FOR IT WOULD BE A CLAN.

SO... MAYBE THAT'S WHY HE WASN'T FAMILIAR WITH ELECTRONIC DEVICES.

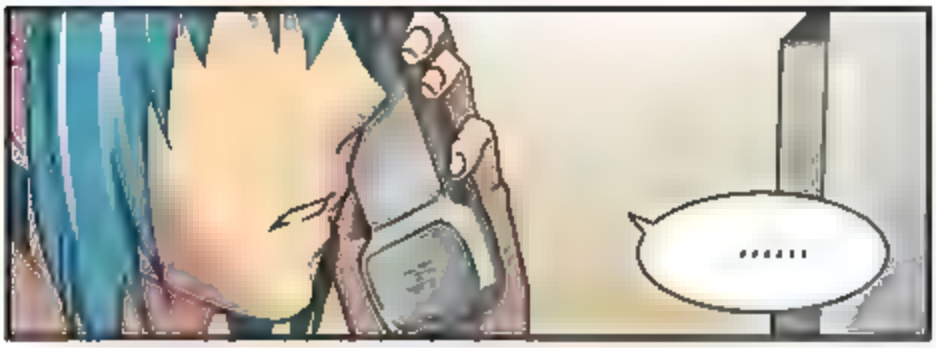
BESIDES, HIS REAL FAMILY BUSINESS IS RUNNING A CENTER, TOO.



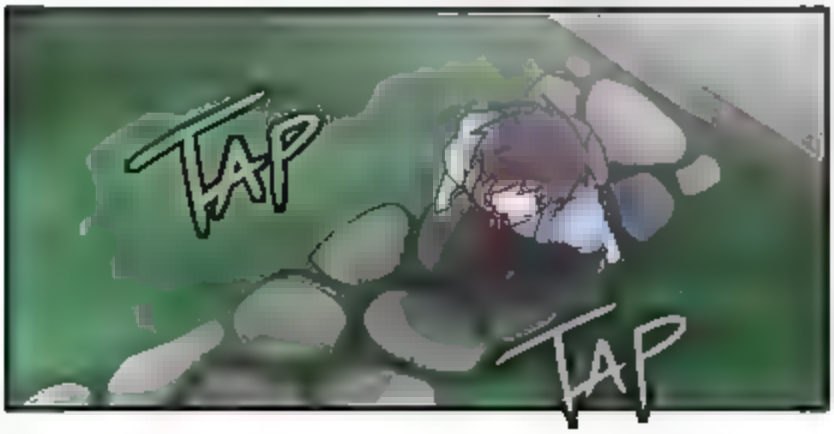
IT'S A GYM FOR TAEKWONDO AND TAEKKYON, WHICH ARE THE KOREAN TRADITIONAL MARTIAL ARTS.

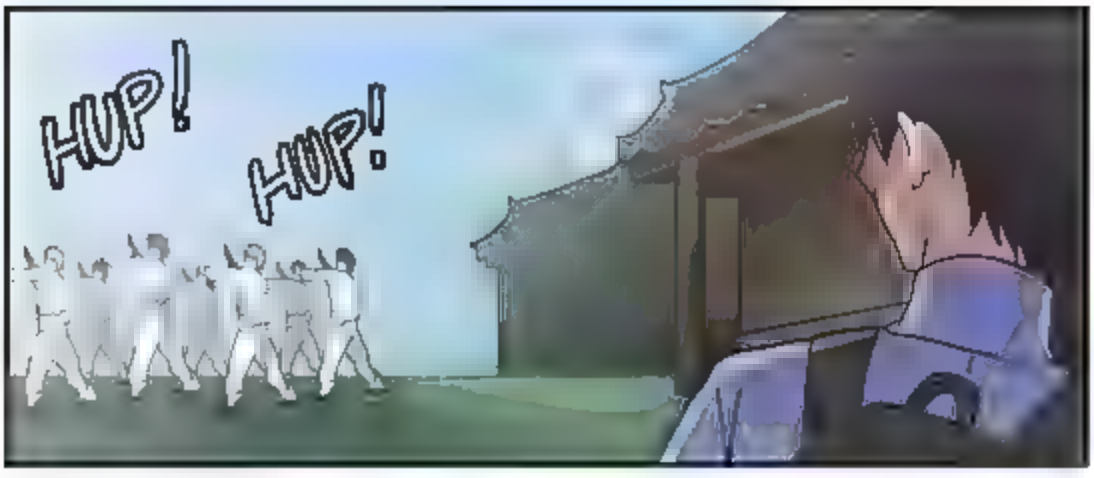
THIS GYM HAS PRODUCED 5 GOLD MEDALISTS, AND ONE OF THEM IS SEONIL'S DAD.
SEONIL ALSO WON THE GOLD MEDAL IN THE JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP.
HOW POWERFUL THIS FAMILY IS...
IF SOMEONE TRIES TO BREAK INTO THIS HOUSE POOR THIEF...
HELLO?

SEYOUNG?
LONG TIME NO SEE!
IT'S JIHAN.
IS SEONIL THERE?
HI, JIHAN.
I'M SORRY,
BUT SEONIL CAUGHT
A BAD COLD...
IS HE OKAY!?
LET ME IN!
I KNOW HE
WENT TO FIGHT
WITH SEONGON
HWAN!


.....

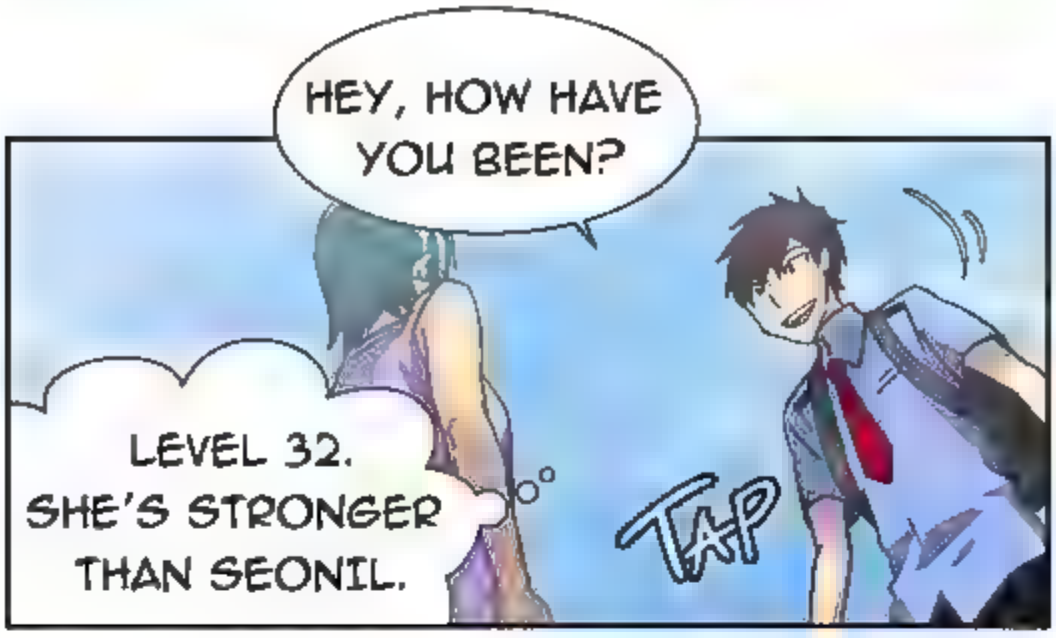
IZZING
COME IN.


TAP
TAP


HUP!
HUP!

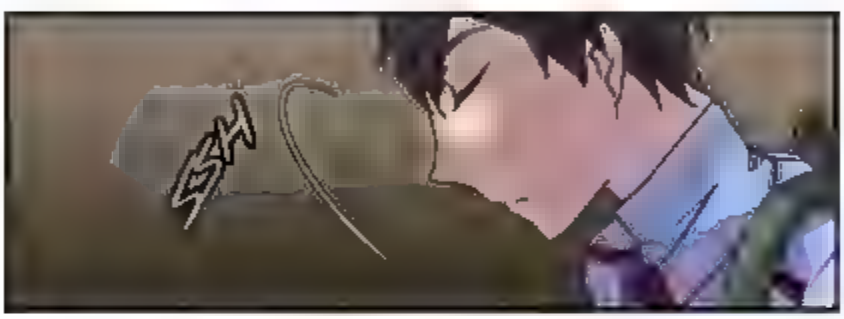
TAP
TAP
TAP

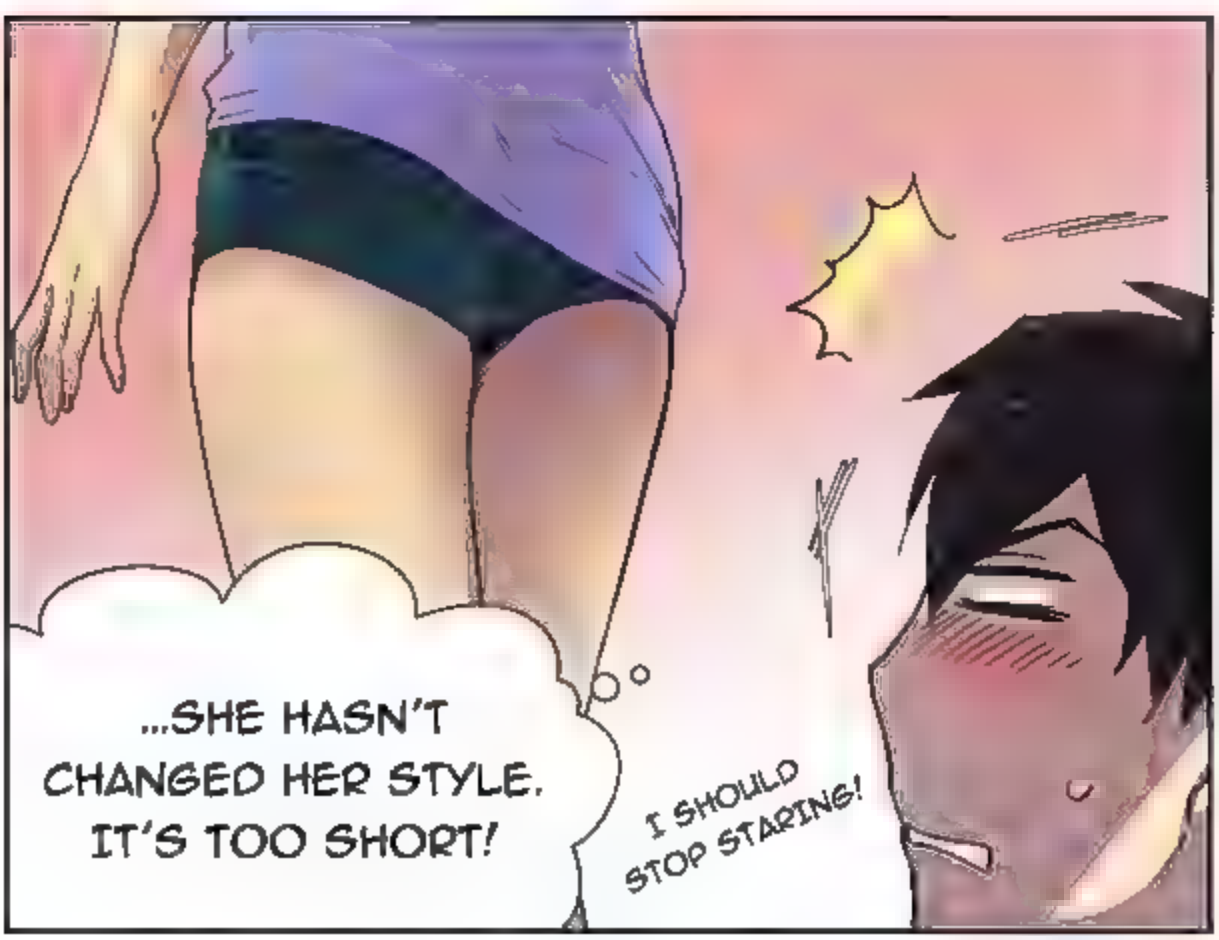
CHEON BU GUILD
SPIRIT OF CLOUD
LV 32 SEYOUNG P.
SHE'S SEONIL'S COUSIN, A FEMALE TAEKWONDO OLYMPIC GOLD MEDALIST.

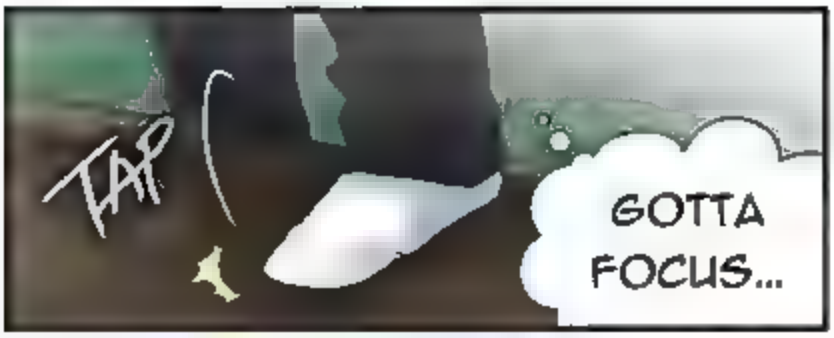

HEY, HOW HAVE YOU BEEN?
LEVEL 32. SHE'S STRONGER THAN SEONIL.
TAP

GOOD. IT'S BEEN 2 MONTHS?

YEAH, I THINK SO.
WHERE'S SEONIL?
TURN
THIS WAY.


SSH


...SHE HASN'T CHANGED HER STYLE. IT'S TOO SHORT!
I SHOULD STOP STARING!



BEEP

YOU'VE ENTERED AN INSTANT DUNGEON.

BEEP

YOU'VE ENTERED 'CHEON BU GUILD WIND, RAIN, AND CLOUD DUNGEON'.

YOUR ABILITY HAS DECREASED BY 10% AS YOU HAVEN'T LEARNED TO CONTROL WIND.

YOUR ABILITY HAS DECREASED BY 10% AS YOU HAVEN'T LEARNED TO CONTROL CLOUD.

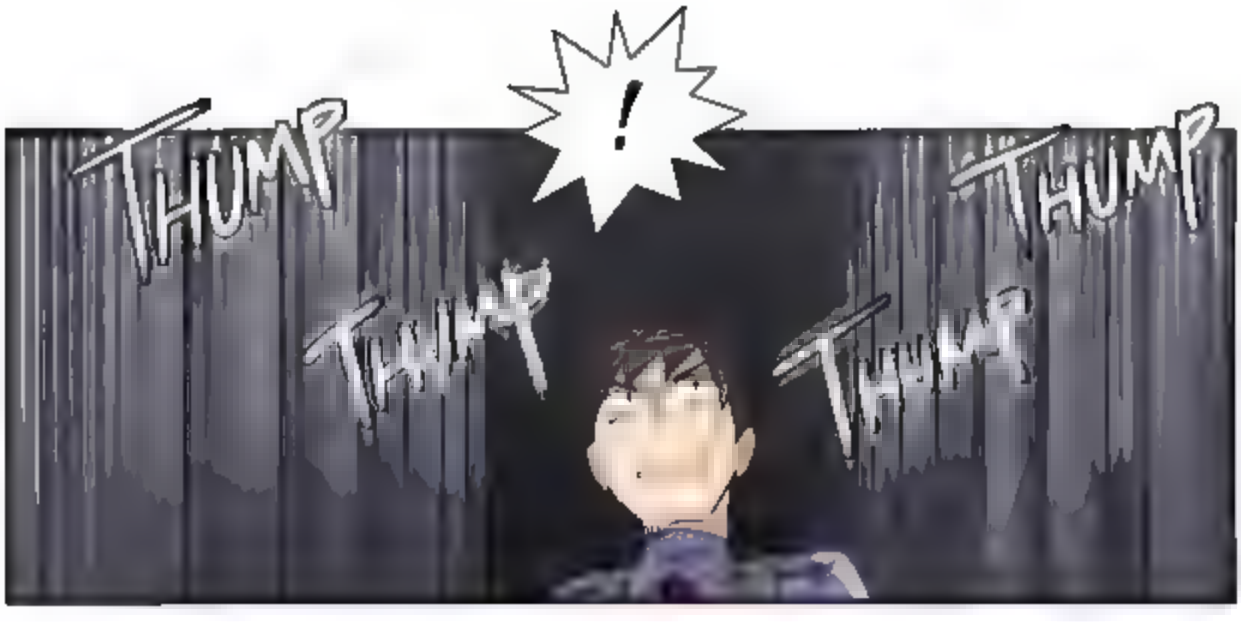
YOUR ABILITY HAS DECREASED BY 10% AS YOU HAVEN'T LEARNED TO CONTROL RAIN.

SHH SH

AM I IN A PROTECTED SPACE AGAIN?

BUT IT'S A TOTALLY DIFFERENT ONE!

CHEON BU GUILD WIND, RAIN, AND CLOUD DUNGEON?


!
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP

RUMBLE

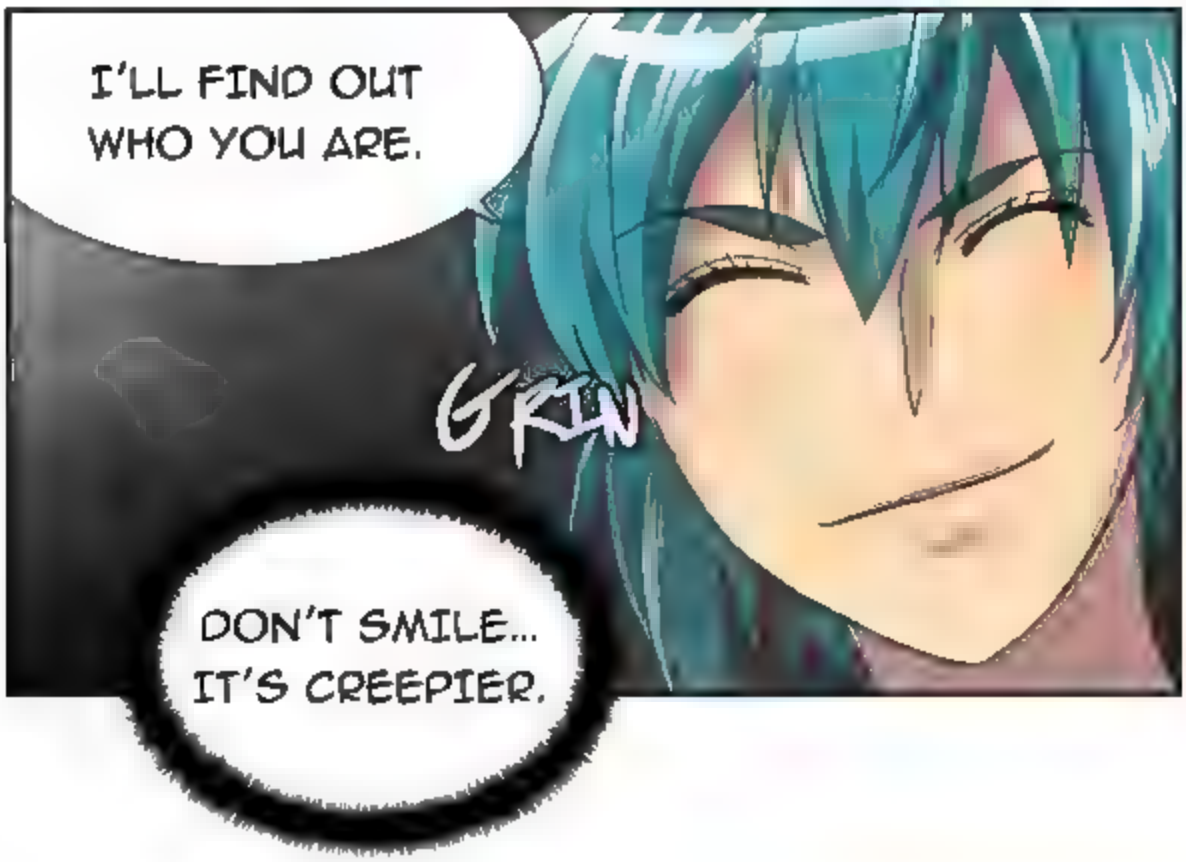
SPLATTER

THE JIHAN I KNOW IS ORDINARY AND LIKES TO PLAY GAMES.

BUT SUDDENLY, YOU COME HERE AND MENTION SEONGON HWAN...

ISN'T THAT STRANGE?

OH, NO! I KNOW SHE HAS A HOT TEMPER... I HAVE TO EXPLAIN MYSELF BEFORE SHE KILLS ME!
HEY, SEYOUNG...
SHUT UP.


I'LL FIND OUT WHO YOU ARE.
GRIN
DON'T SMILE... IT'S CREEPIER.

GATHER, CLOUDS!
RUMBLE

THE GAMER

STORY BY SANGYOUNG SEONG
ILLUST BY SANG-A

LINE Webtoon

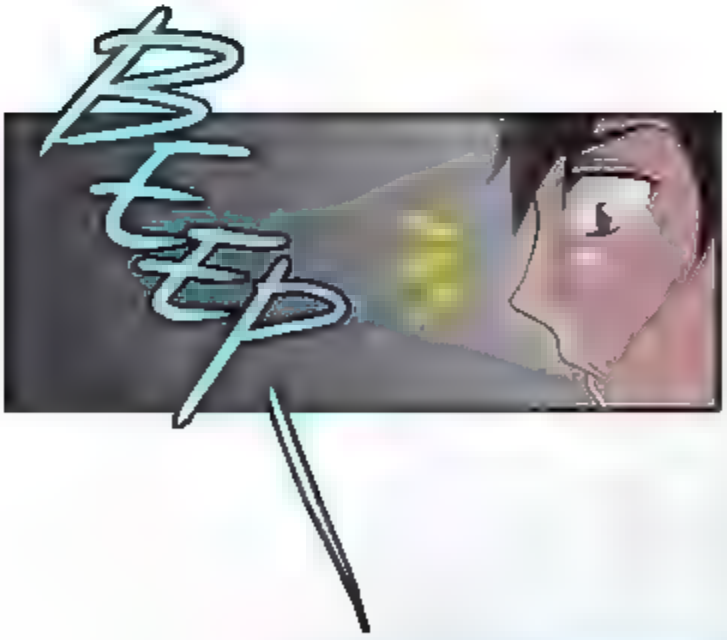
THE GAMER

STORY BY SANGYOUNG SEONG
ILLUST BY SANG-A

PATTER

THE RAIN HAS STOPPED.
SHH

RUMBLE



YOUR MOVEMENT HAS DECREASED BY 50%.

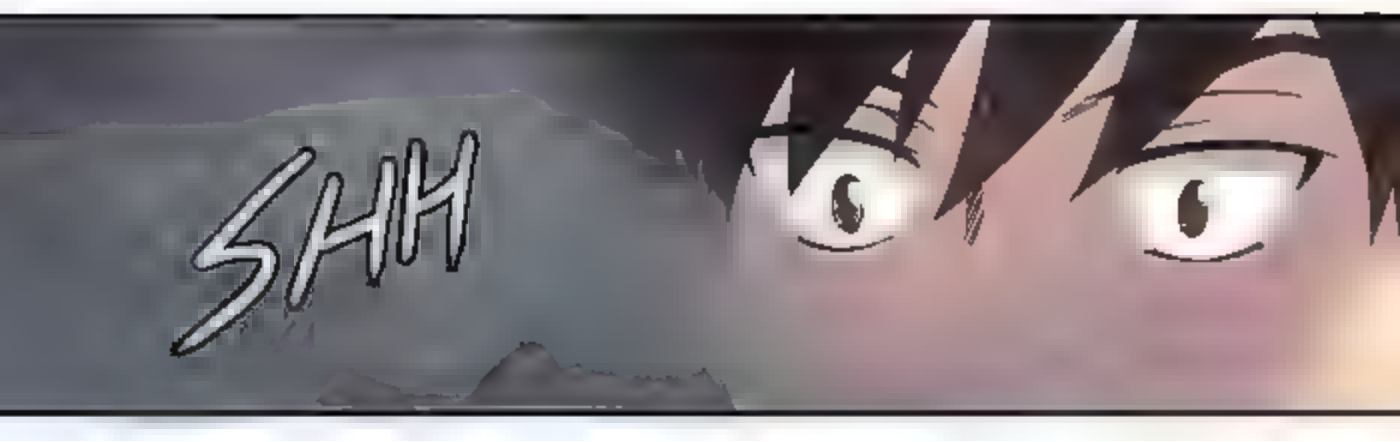
BEEP

OU HAVE [SLOWDOWN]
WHICH IS
A ATTRIBUTE NEGATING CONDITION.

SLOWDOWN?

SHOULD I HAVE BROUGHT A SLOWDOWN RECOVERY DRINK?

WELL, I DON'T KNOW HOW TO MAKE IT.



MISTY...
WHERE AM I...?

I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING...

OH, RIGHT!
TAP

ESCAPE FROM
INSTANT DUNGEON!

BEEP.
IMPOSSIBLE TO ESCAPE.
WHAT!?
THUMP

SMASH

AUGHH!?

SHOOSH

THUD

BEEP

YOU LOST 150 HP.

PHYSICAL ENDURANCE SKILL
EXPERIENCE INCREASED.

BEEP

AH... I LOST
MY PRECIOUS HP...

-150

BEEP

I KNEW IT.
YOU'RE NOT JIHAN!
I, I'M JIHAN...
I HIT YOU HARD
BUT YOU LOOK
JUST FINE!
I, I CAN
EXPLAIN THIS.

SHUT UP. WHERE IS JIHAN?
DID SEONGON SEND YOU?

I CAN'T DIE LIKE THIS!
INVENTORY!
Swoop
I CAN RECOVER 10 HP WITH THIS BREAD!

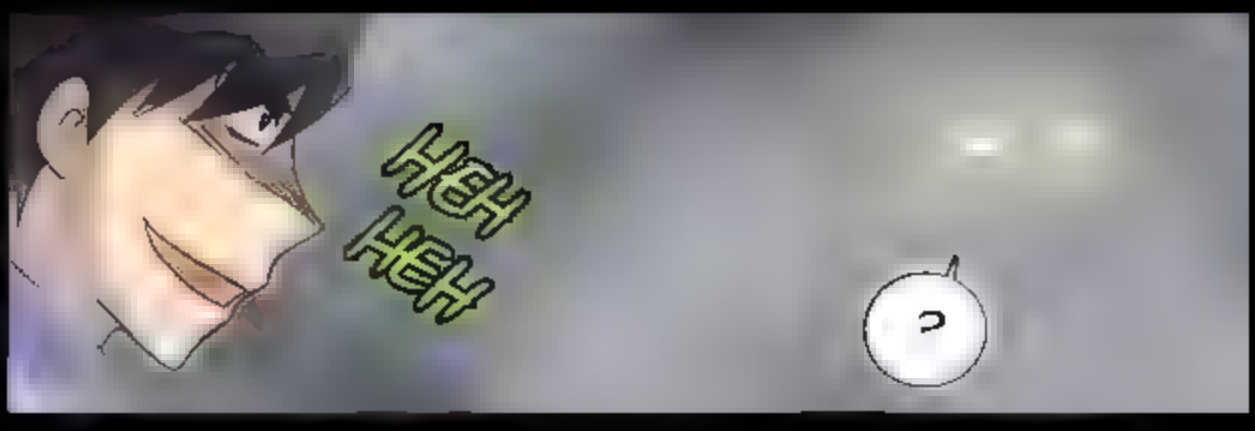
I SUMMON BREAD!
LLING
THEN EAT IT!
CRACK
I DON'T KNOW WHY BUT I CAN INCREASE 50 HP WITH MILK

+10
+10
RING
CRUK
CRUK
GURGLE
GURGLE

...

BURP
WIPE

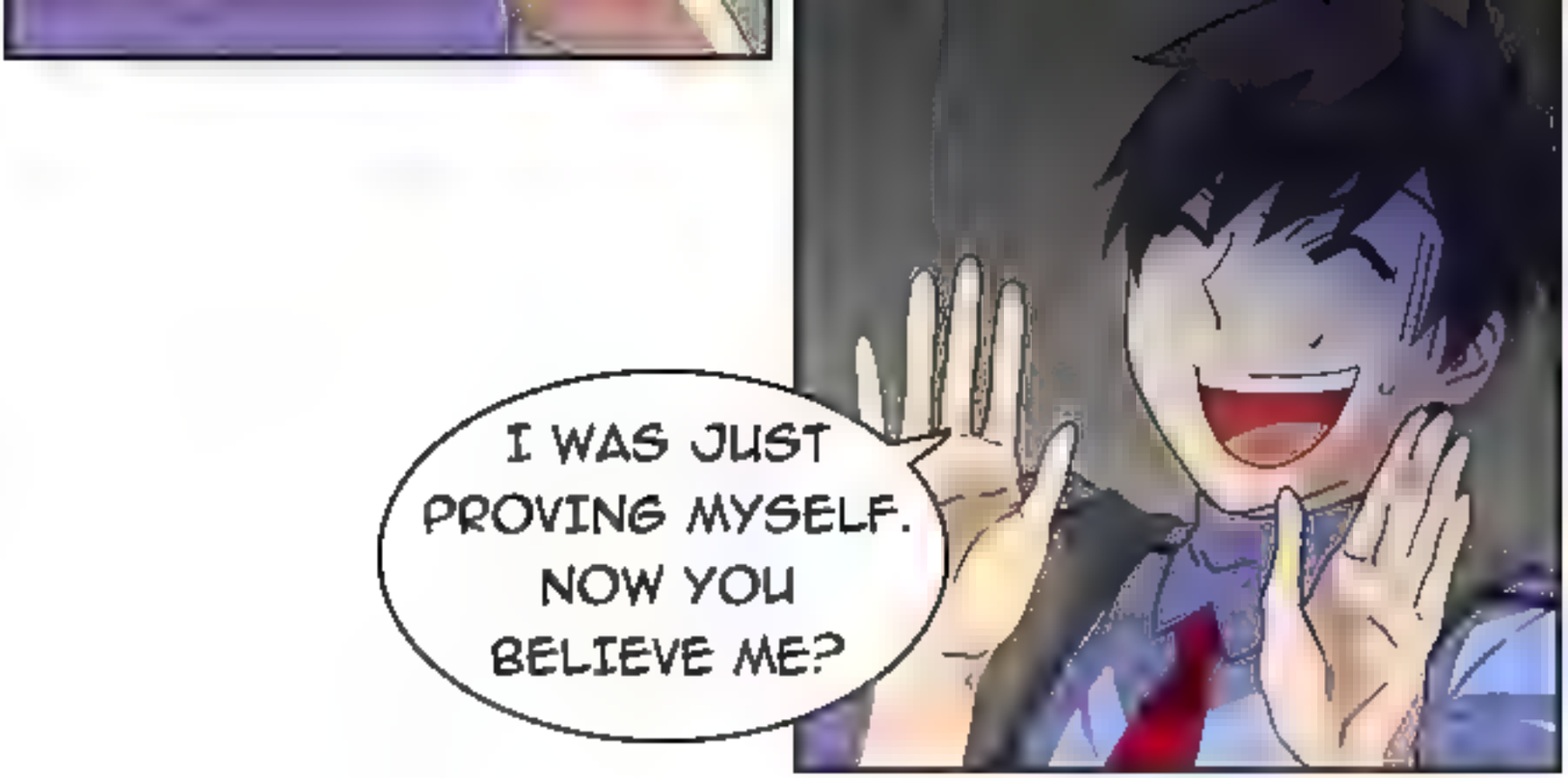
I'LL PROVE THAT I'M REALLY JIHAN.


HEH HEH
?

WHEW
YOU'VE BEEN WEARING BLACK SILK UNDERWEAR SINCE...!!!
SMASH

GASP GASP
COUGH
HEY!!!
I TOLD YOU TO NEVER BRING THAT UP AGAIN!

THE GAMER


I WAS JUST PROVING MYSELF. NOW YOU BELIEVE ME?

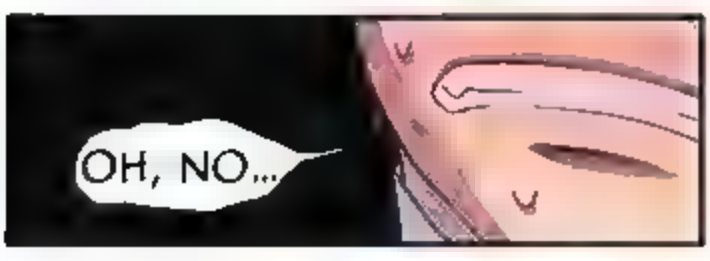
GRAB
YES. IT'S YOU.

AND WE HAVE A PROBLEM.

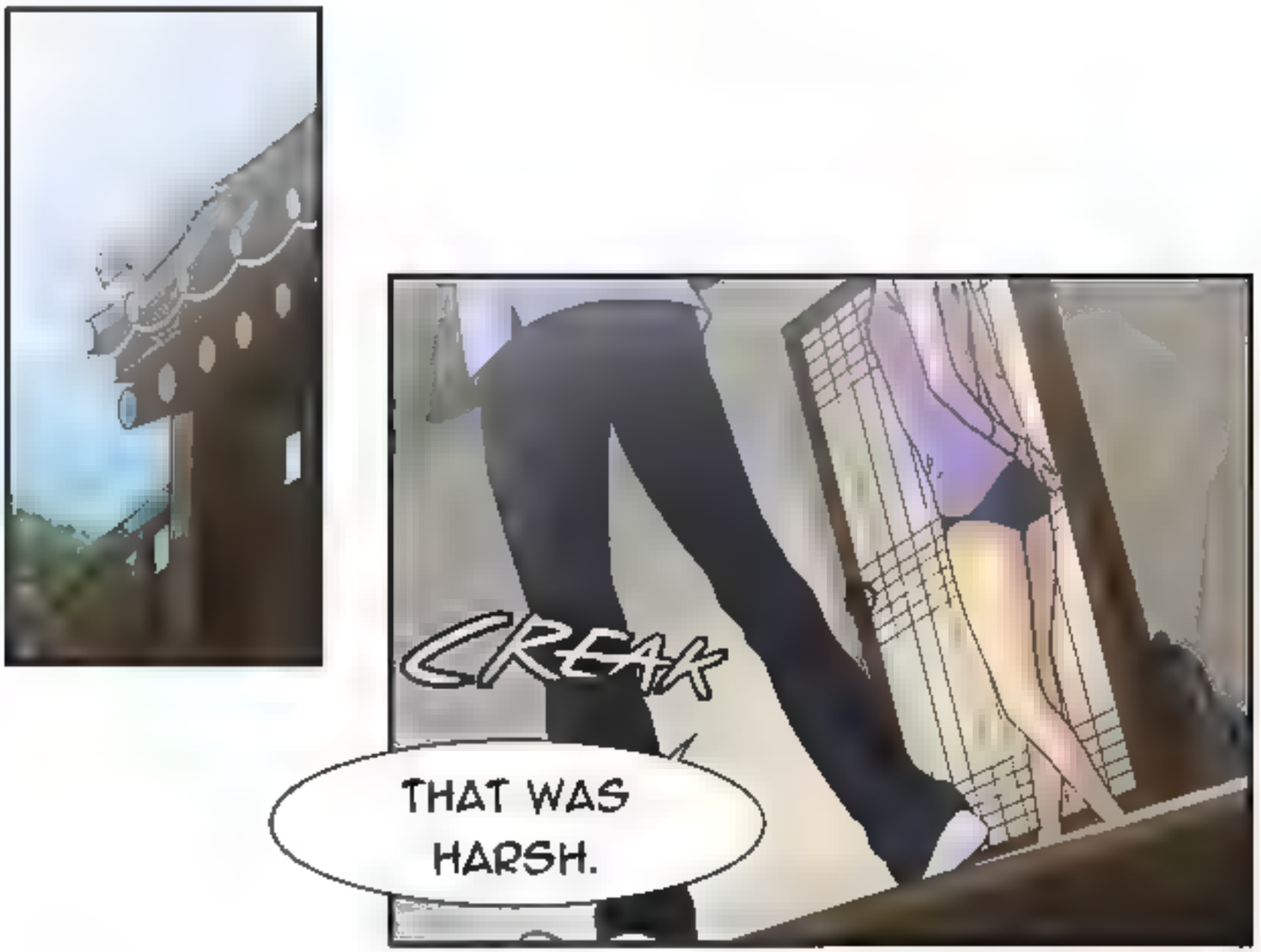
HEY... I'M STRONGER THAN YOU THINK, BUT STILL...

SHUT. UP.

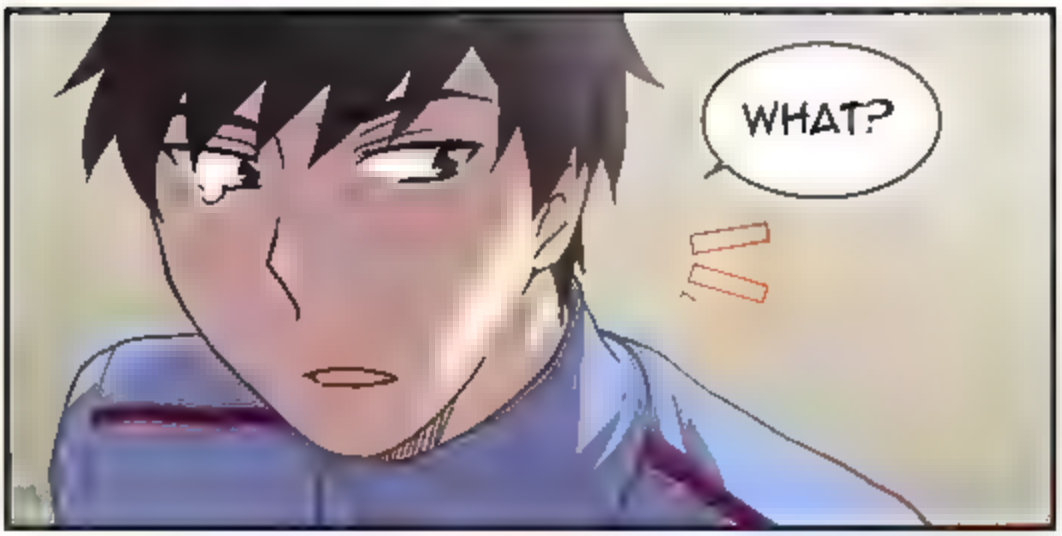
YOU WALKED YOURSELF IN, BUT YOU CAN'T LEAVE UNTIL I SAY YOU CAN.

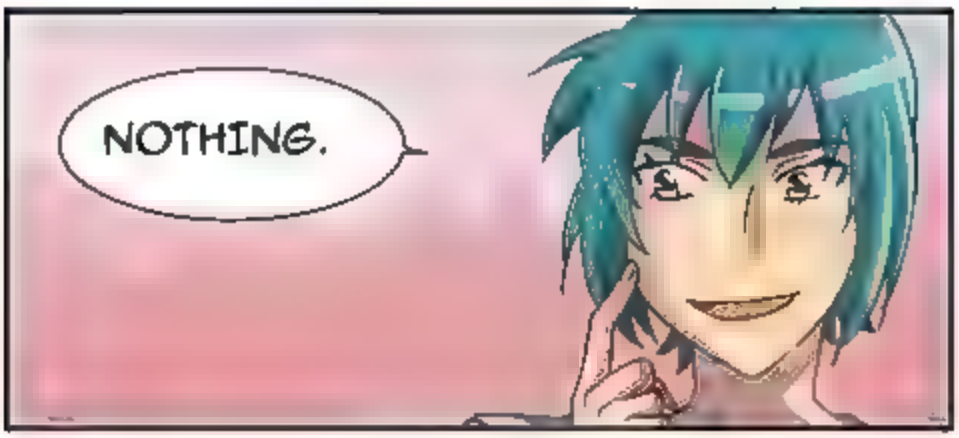

OH, NO...

ARGHH!


CREAK
THAT WAS HARSH.

YOU AND SEONIL ARE THE SAME.
WHY DO YOU GUYS HAVE TO PUNCH FIRST?
YOUR FAMILY..!
HEY! WE'RE NOT GANGSTERS.
YES, YOU...
POW
STOP!
RING
MY HP..!
.....

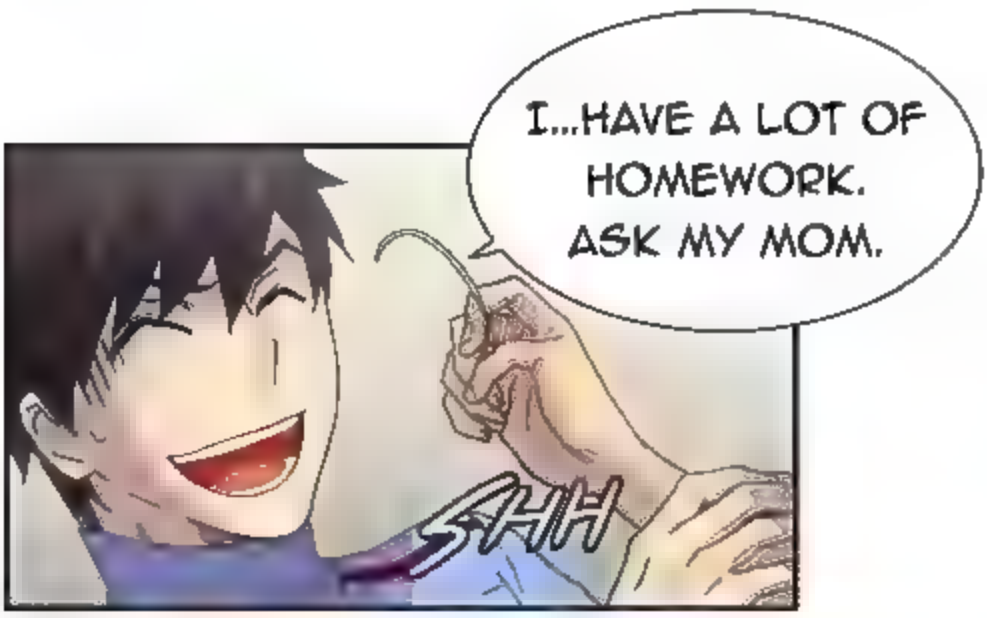

WHAT?

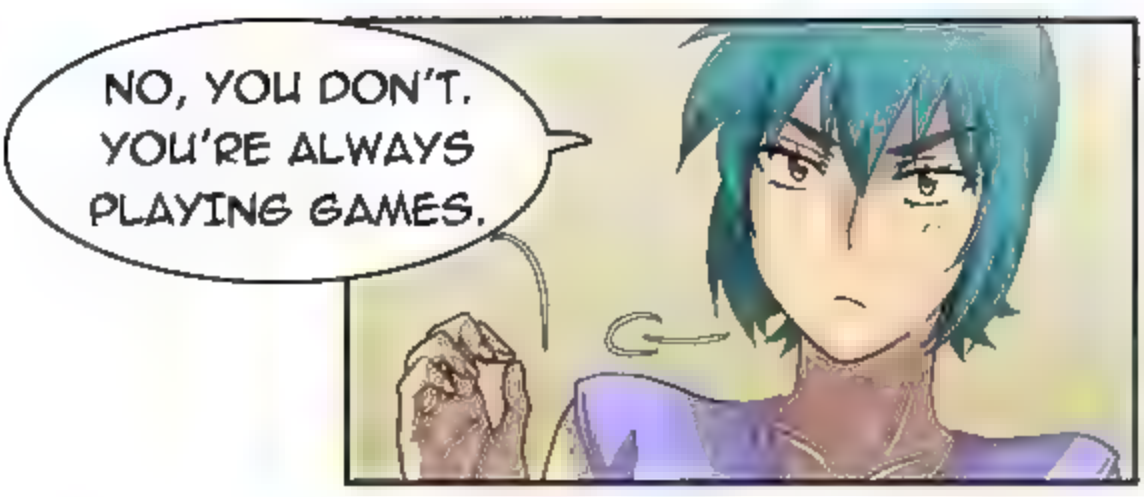

NOTHING.

SHH
SHH
JIHAN...?

WHY DON'T WE HAVE A DATE?
S...SCARED!

NO, THANKS. I'M FINE.
WHY NOT? YOU DON'T LIKE THIS PRETTY GIRL?
STRUGGLE
I KNOW THERE'S SOMETHING BEHIND THIS 'DATING'. I'M NOT A FOOL!


I...HAVE A LOT OF HOMEWORK. ASK MY MOM.
SHH


NO, YOU DON'T. YOU'RE ALWAYS PLAYING GAMES.

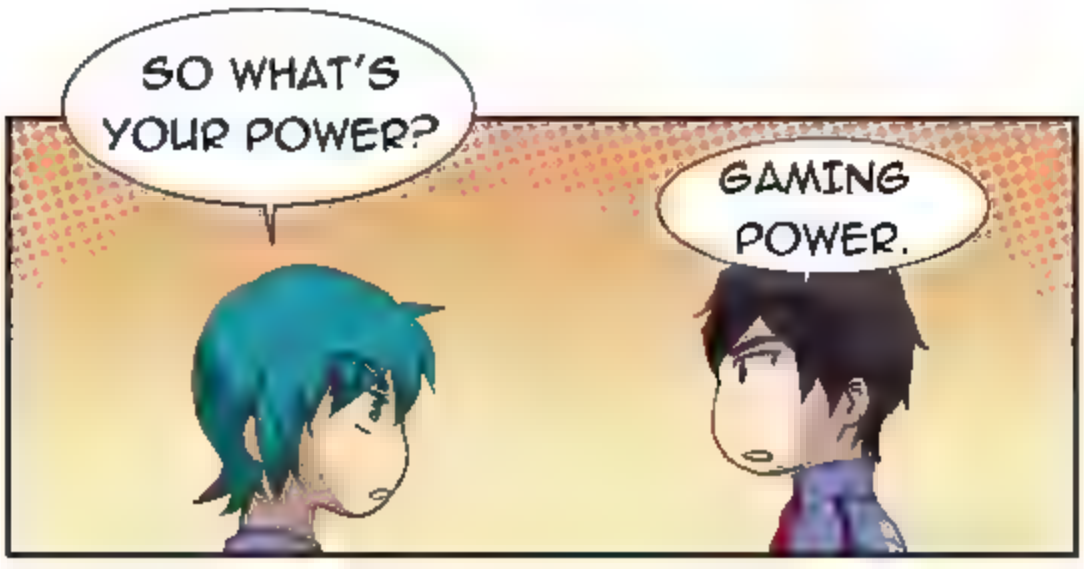
HEY! THAT'S NOT TRUE.

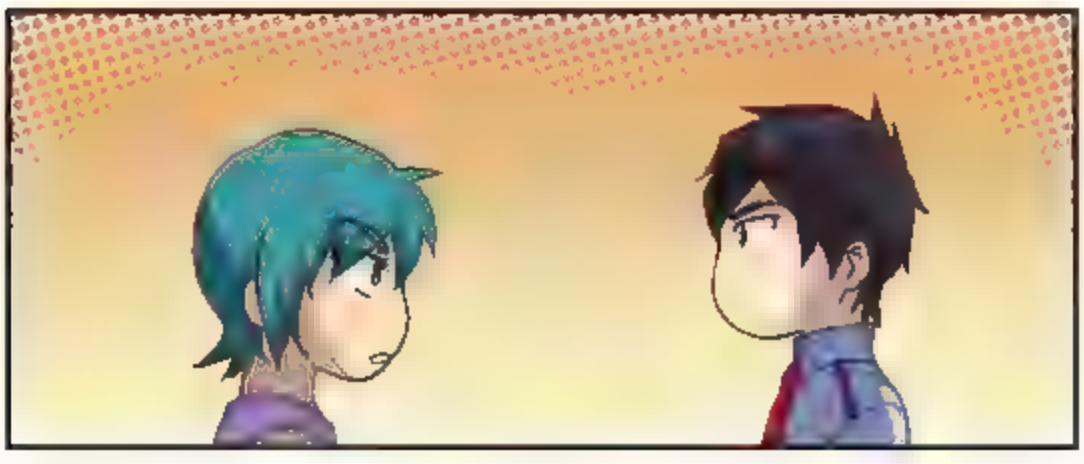
ENOUGH!

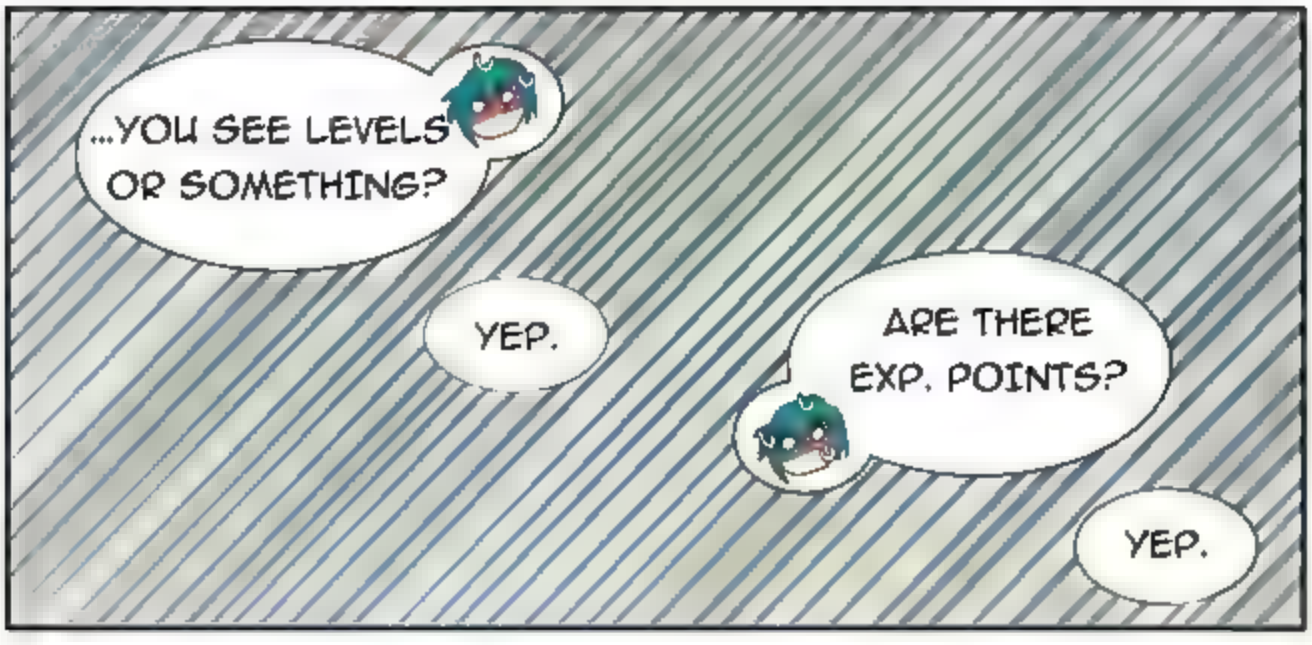
ANYWAY WHAT'S GOING ON WITH YOU?

I ALREADY TOLD SEONIL EVERYTHING. DIDN'T HE SAY ANYTHING?

NO,
HE DIDN'T.
HMM.
IT'S A LONG STORY.
HE SAID
I BECAME
AN INNATE FIGHTER.
HUH?
INNATE
FIGHTER?
YOU?
HOW?
WHY IS SHE
SO SURPRISED?
SEONIL WASN'T
SURPRISED LIKE
SHE IS.
I DON'T KNOW.
IT JUST
HAPPENED.


SO WHAT'S YOUR POWER?
GAMING POWER.




...YOU SEE LEVELS OR SOMETHING?
YEP.
ARE THERE EXP. POINTS?
YEP.

HOW SO...?
SEONIL THINKS I GOT THIS GAMING POWER BECAUSE I ALWAYS PLAY GAMES.
HA!
PUHAHAHA!
HAHAHAHAHA
G, GAMING POWER. THAT'S AMAZING!
AHAHAHAHA!

EXCUSE ME. DON'T MAKE FUN OF ME!
SORRY! AHAHA.

SIGH

LISTEN. THERE AREN'T MANY INNATE FIGHTERS.
AND MOST OF THEM ARE VERY STRONG.

REALLY?
WHY?

YOU KNOW ACQUIRED FIGHTERS?

YES.

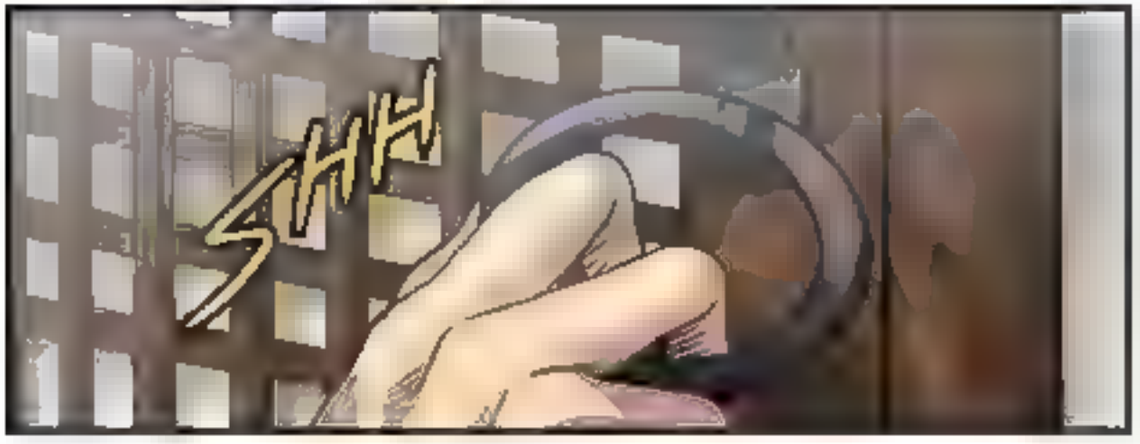
ACQUIRED FIGHTERS BECAME FIGHTERS THROUGH TRAINING.

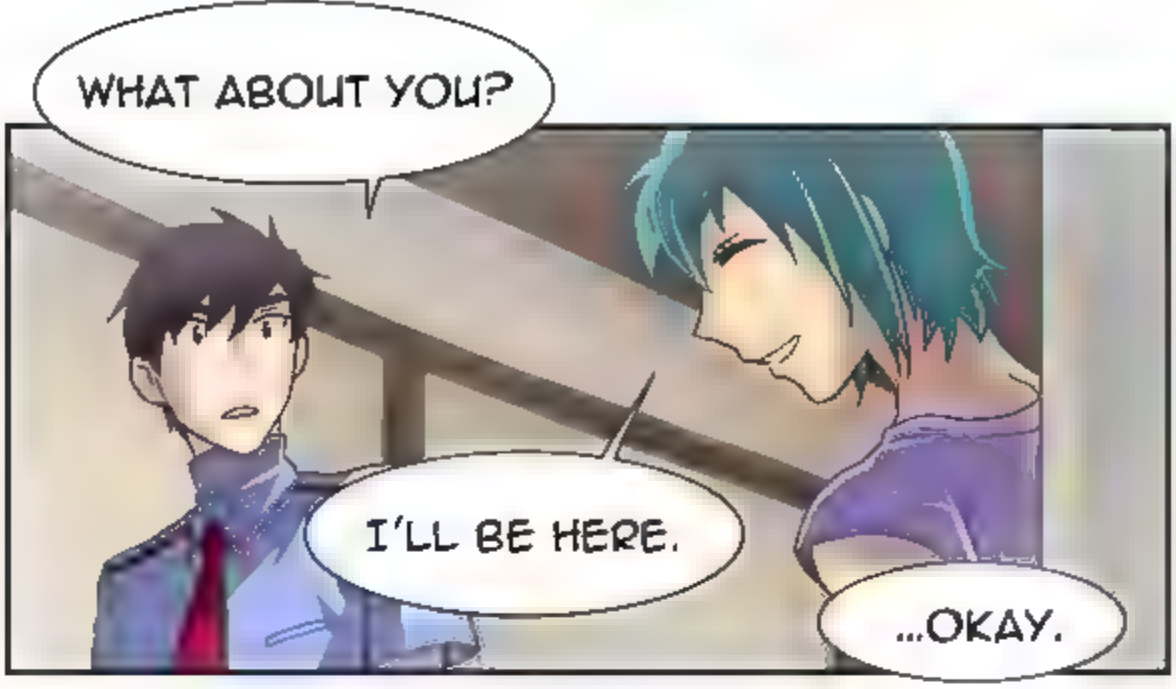
CREAK

I MEAN THEY JUST TRAINED THEMSELVES HARD AND BECAME STRONG.

BUT THE INNATE FIGHTERS ALSO TRAIN THEMSELVES, YOU KNOW?
INNATE POWER + ACQUIRED POWER THROUGH TRAINING.
SO, OF COURSE THEY ARE STRONGER.
AHA. IT'S LIKE A GAME CHARACTERS STATUS
WHEN YOU CREATE YOUR CHARACTER, YOU WANT IT TO HAVE GOOD STATS. SO YOU HAVE TO...
DO YOU ALWAYS COMPARE EVERYTHING TO GAMES?
CLAP
WELL, THAT'S WHY YOU GOT POWERS LIKE A GAME.

ANYWAY,
TAKE A LOOK
AT HIM FIRST.
HE'S HERE.


SHH



BEEP

YOU ENTERED
INSTANT DUNGEON

BEEP

YOU ENTERED
'CHEON BU GUILD
RECOVERY DUNGEON'.

HP RECOVERY RATE
INCREASED BY 100%.

BEEP

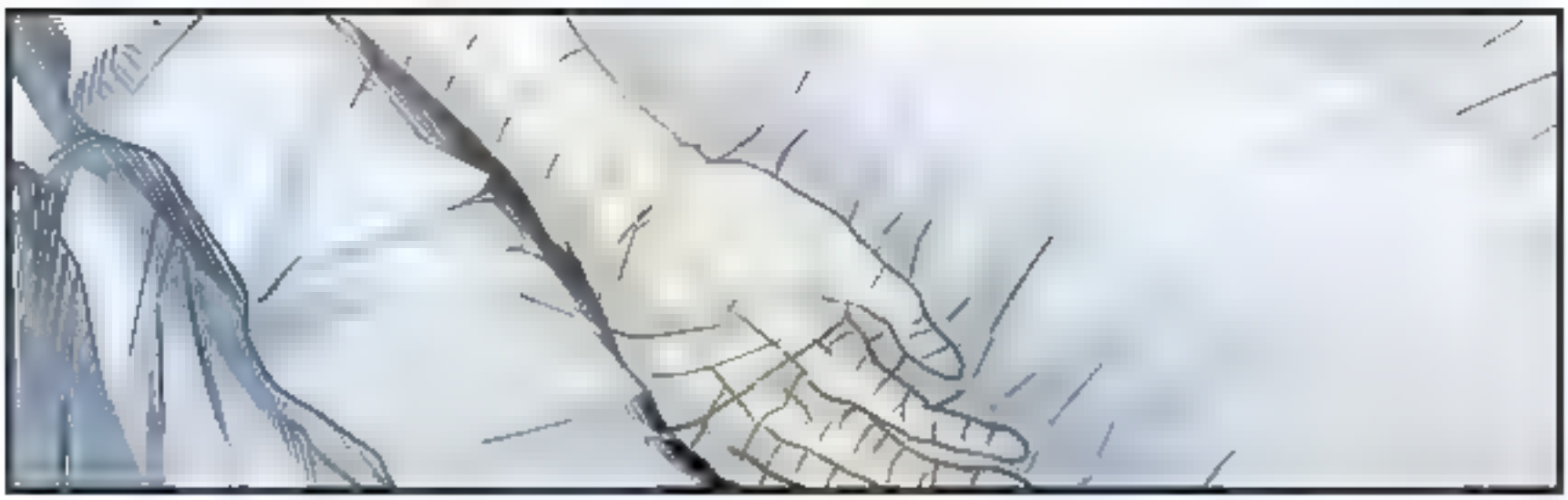
STRENGTH RECOVERY RATE
INCREASED BY 100%.

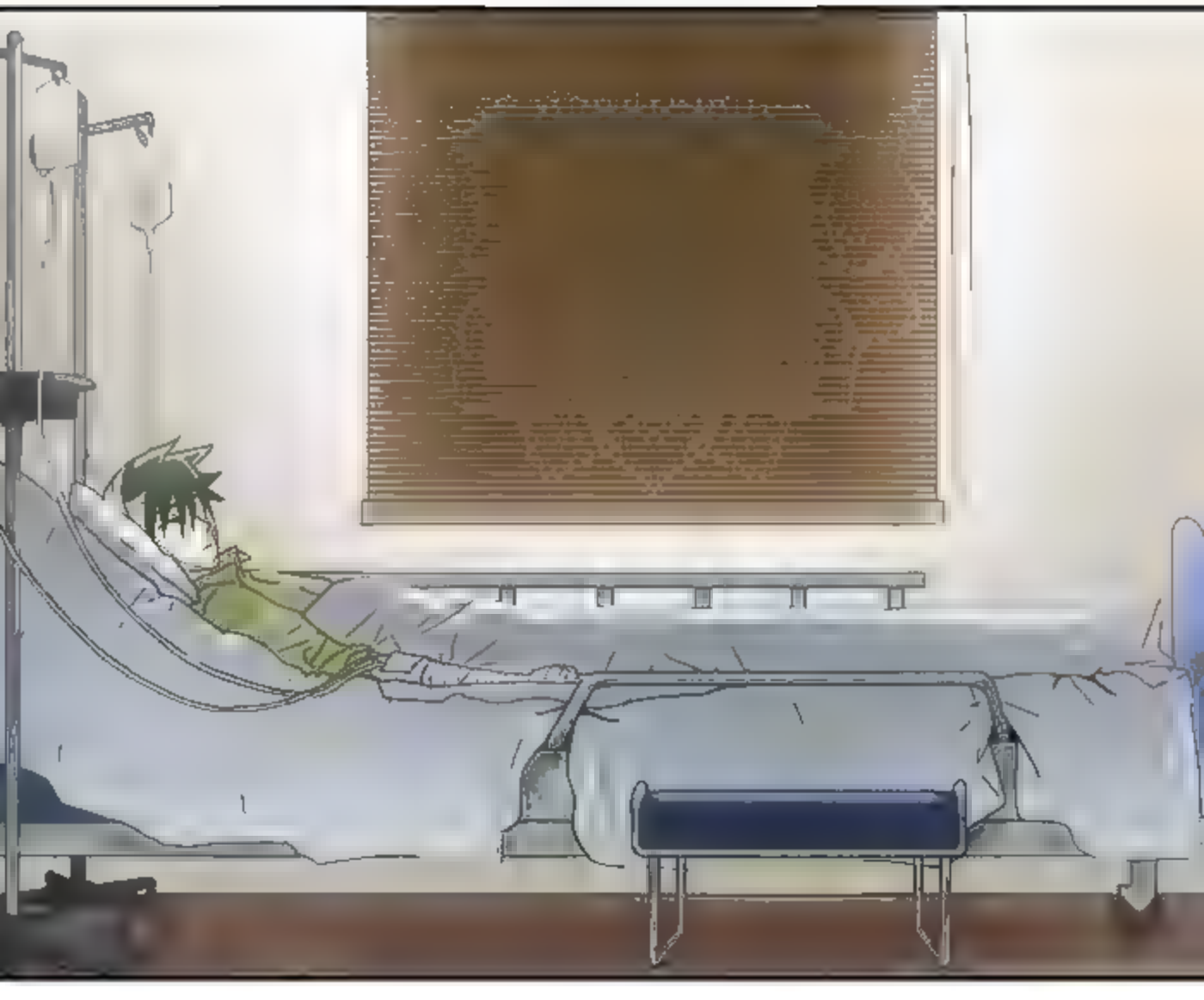
MANA RECOVERY RATE
INCREASED BY 100%.

WOW.
IT'S AMAZING!

WHEN I INCREASE
MY LEVEL, CAN I
MAKE ONE OF THESE?

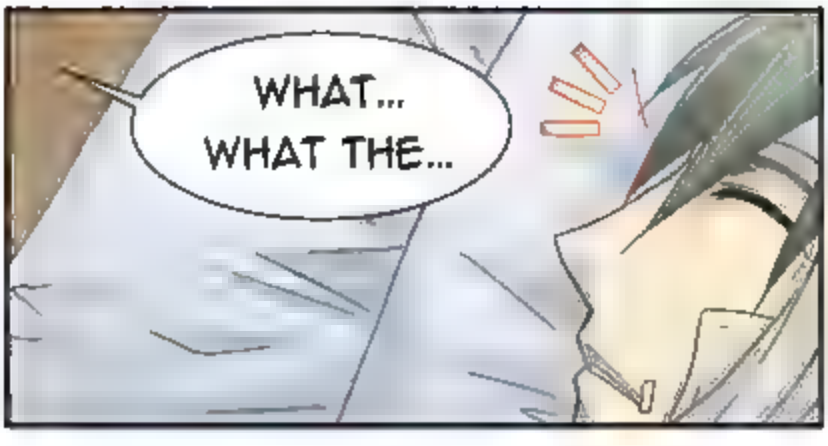
HELLO?





DRIP...

.....


WHAT...
WHAT THE...

YOU BASTARD.
HOW CAN YOU SAY
'HELLO'? HAVE YOU LOOKED
AT YOURSELF?
TEUP

DON'T WORRY.
IT'S NOT THAT SERIOUS.
I THINK KILLING ME WASN'T PART OF SEONGON'S PLAN.

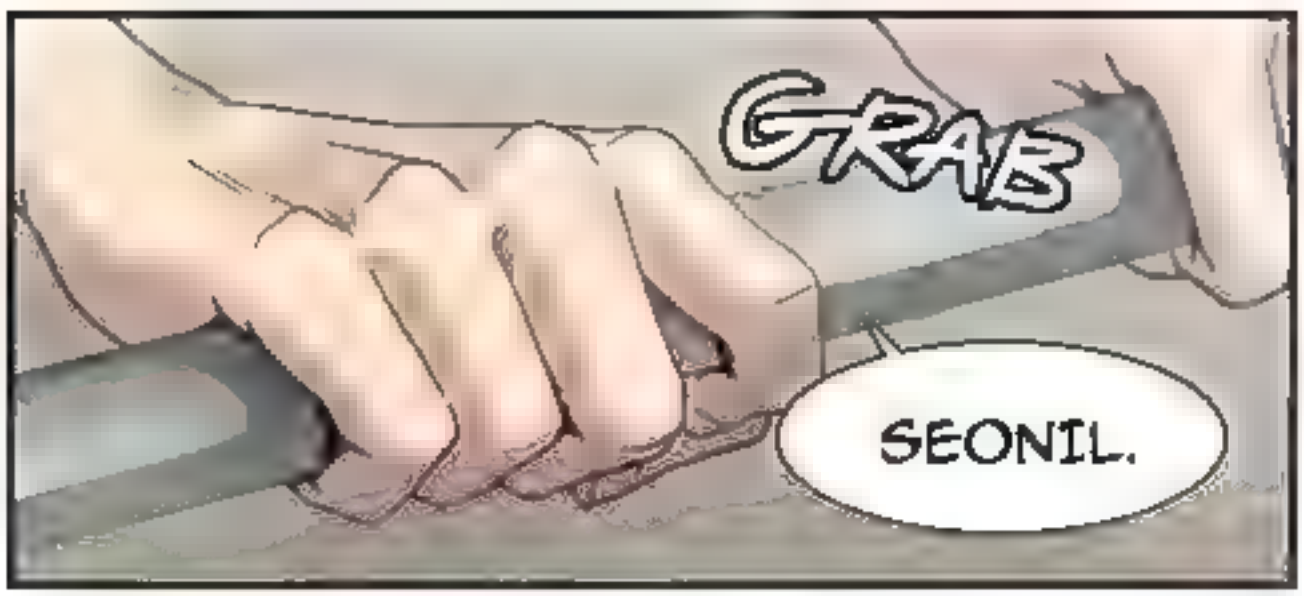
KILL.
HOW CAN HE MENTION THAT WORD SO EASILY?

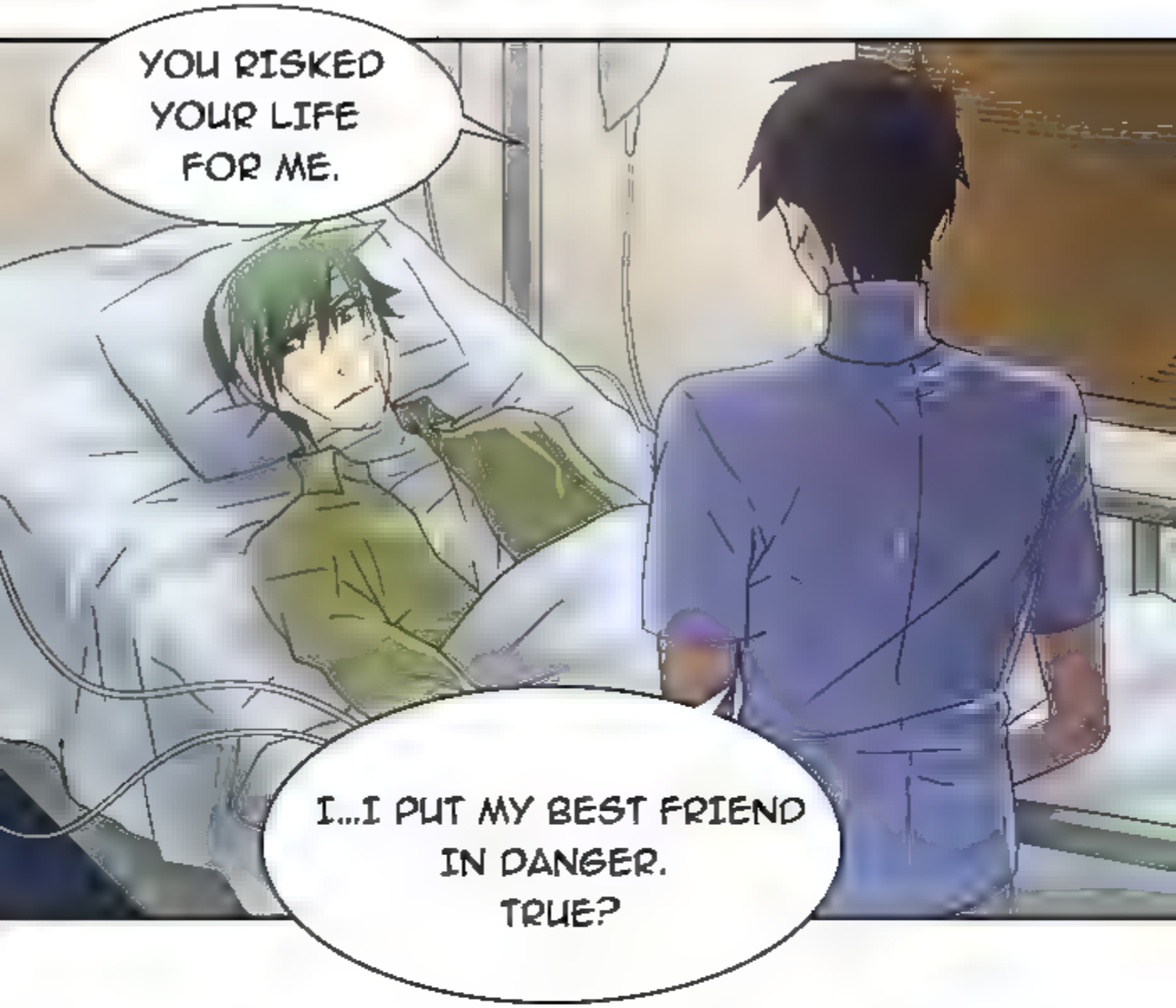
KILL OR BE KILLED.

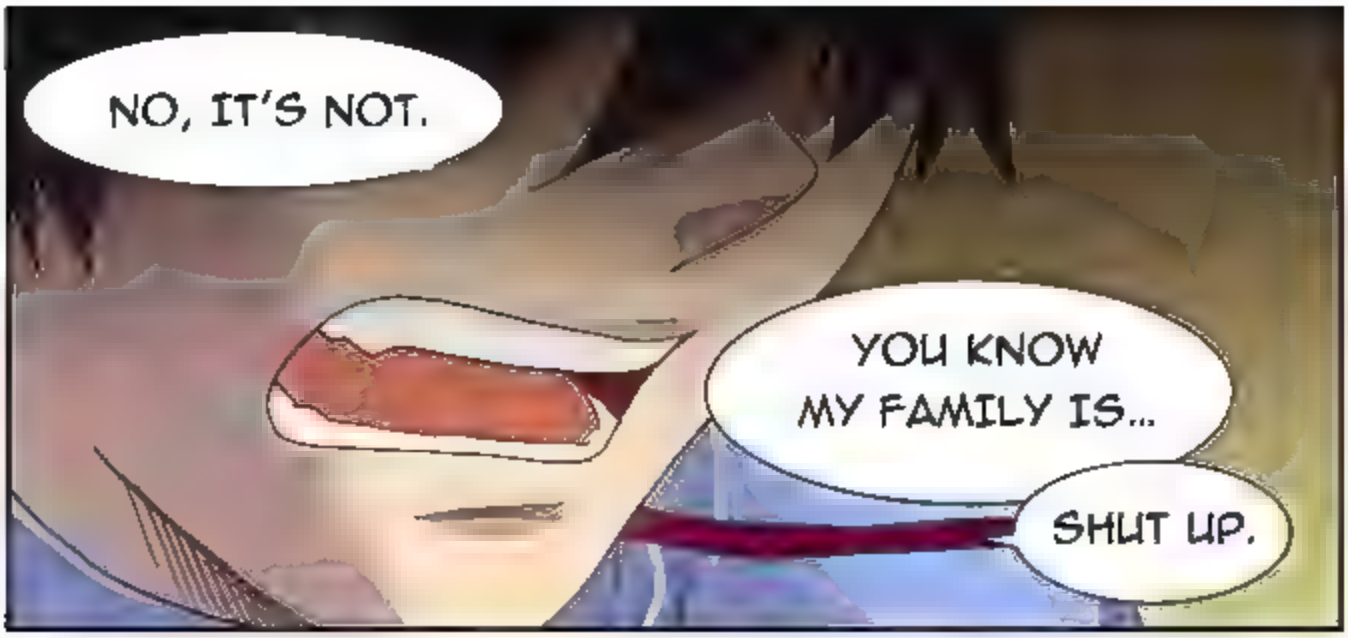
IS THAT IT?

YOU JERK..

I TOLD YOU BEFORE.
WHAT HAPPENS IN THE ABYSS, IT'S BEYOND YOUR IMAGINATION.
YOU SHOULD UNDERSTAND. FIGHTERS KILL OR GET KILLED EVERYDAY IN THE ABYSS, AND IT'S REAL.
THAT'S WHY YOU DON'T WANT ME TO GET INVOLVED?


GRAB
SEONIL.


YOU RISKED YOUR LIFE FOR ME.
I...I PUT MY BEST FRIEND IN DANGER. TRUE?



I'M MAD AT MYSELF. I KNOW I'M A COWARD.

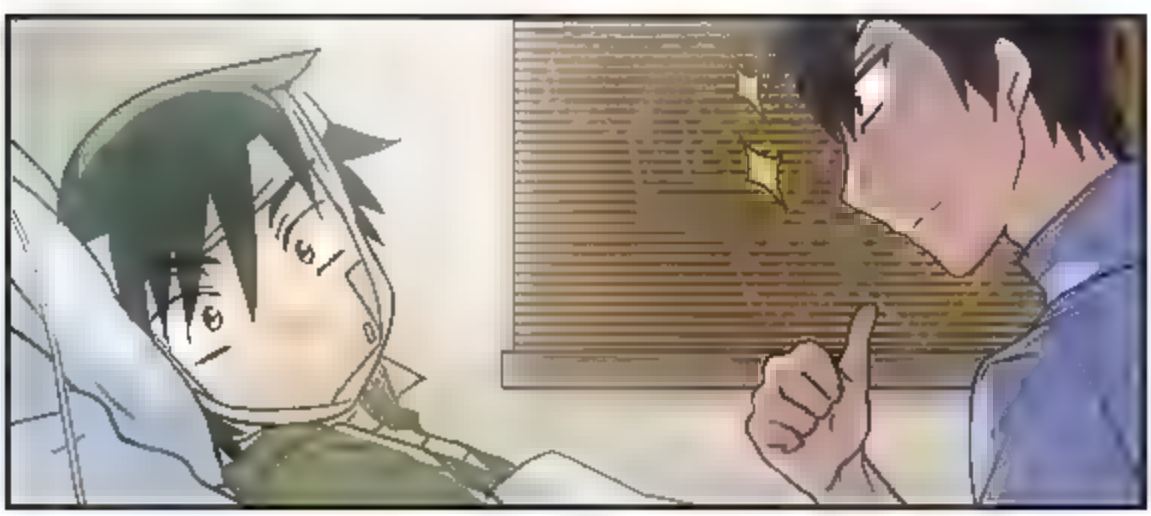
I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE ABYSS IS.

BUT THIS ISN'T RIGHT.

MY BEST FRIEND
ALMOST DIED
BECAUSE OF ME,
BUT I SHOULD IGNORE THAT
AND STAY OUT OF IT?
I DON'T
THINK SO!
I DON'T CARE
WHAT THE ABYSS IS.
I'M SORRY
BUT I'M ALREADY IN.

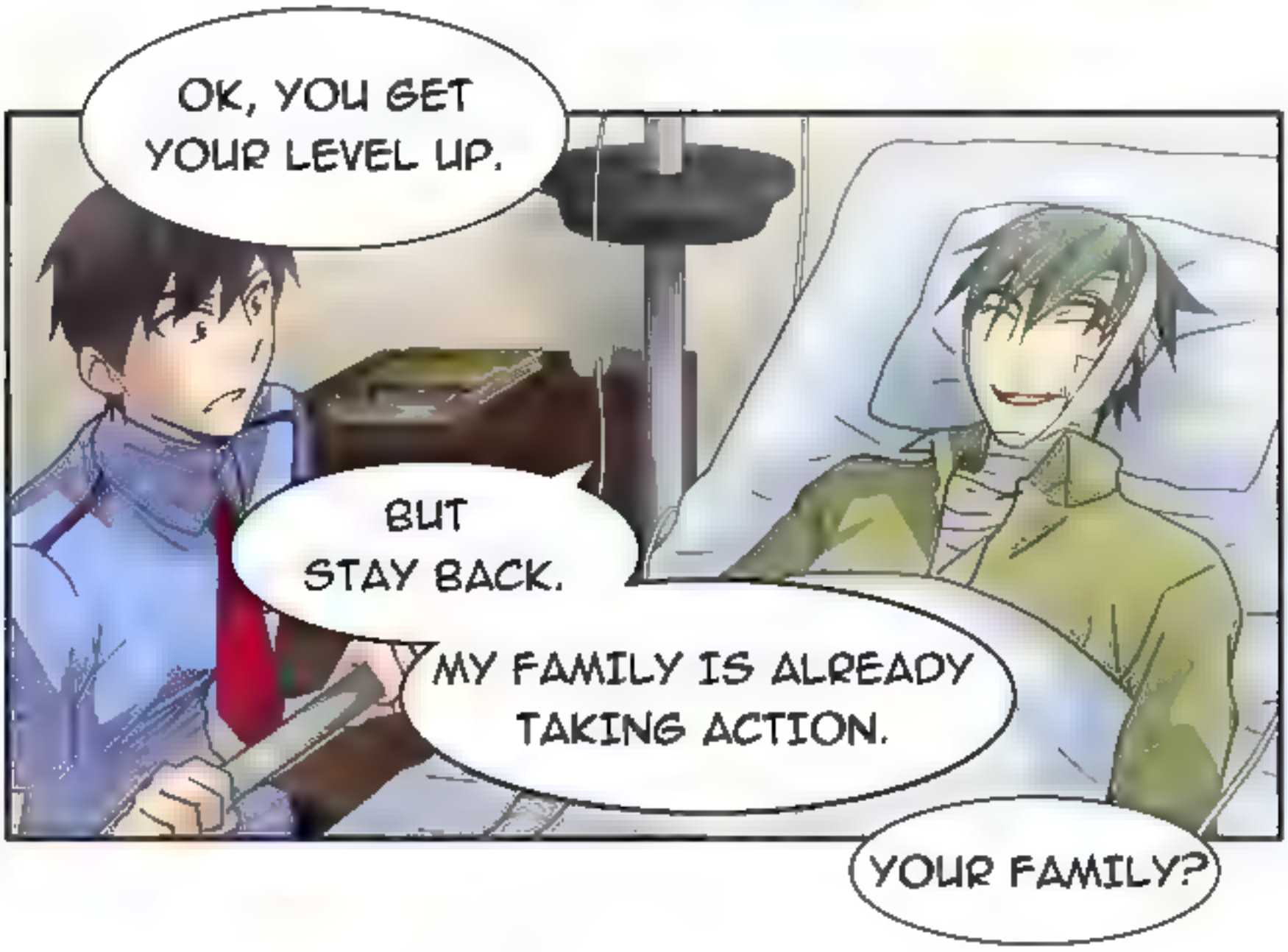
HEY, YOU...

SO I'M GONNA GET MY LV UP.
POINT



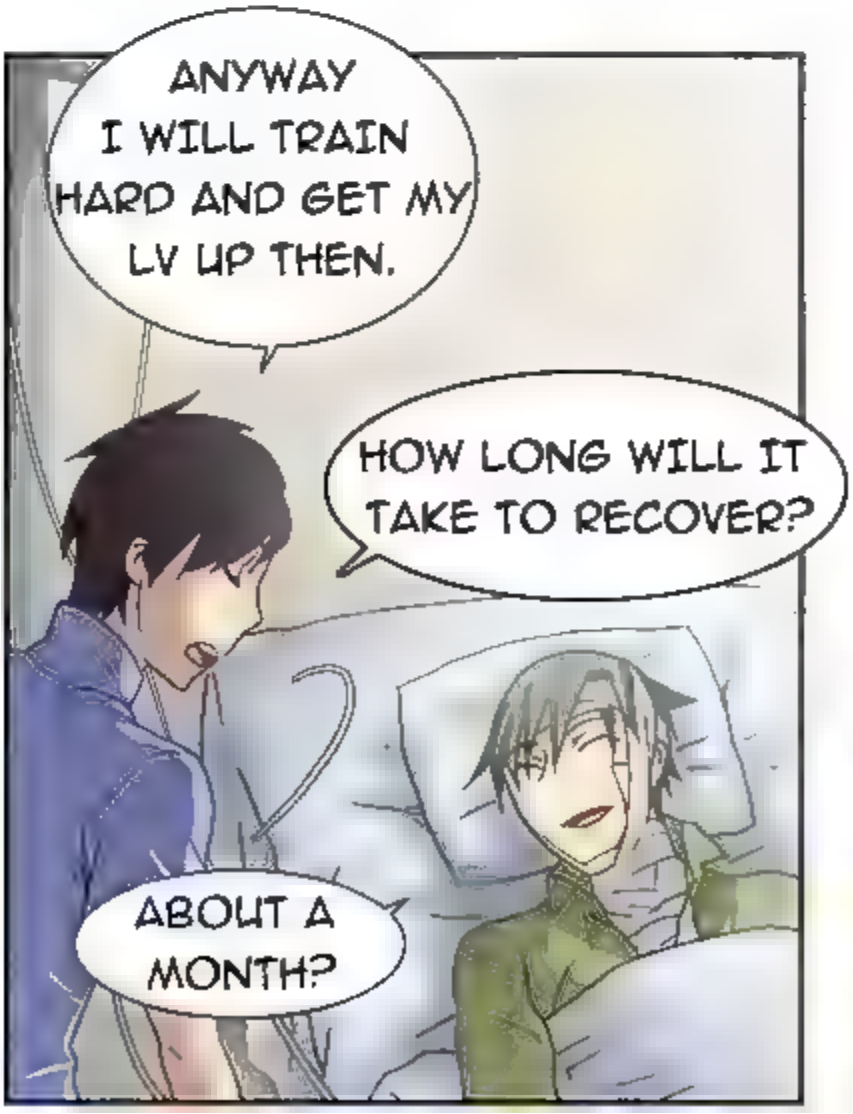
HAHAHA! YOU'RE SO FUNNY.
YOU LOOK SO SERIOUS WHEN YOU SAY LEVEL UP...
HAHAHA.

STOP!
OF COURSE I'M SERIOUS. WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?
WHAT'S SO FUNNY...
UH...MY STOMACH HURTS.
EHEHEHE.


OK, YOU GET YOUR LEVEL UP.
BUT STAY BACK.
MY FAMILY IS ALREADY TAKING ACTION.
YOUR FAMILY?

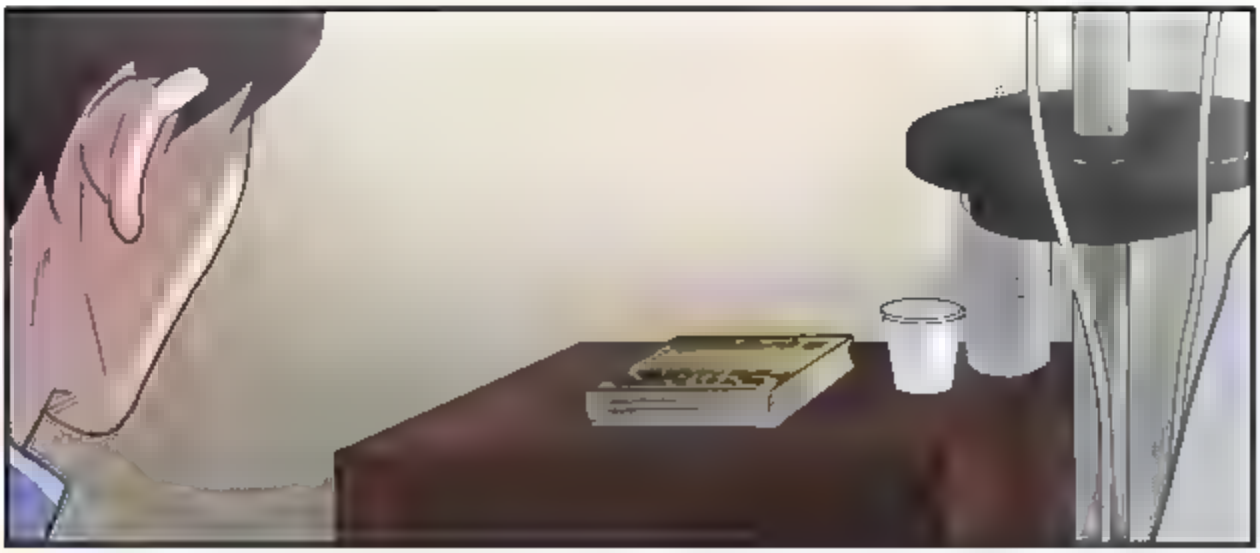
YES. THEY ARE ALL POWERFUL.
SEONGON HWAN WAS STRONGER THAT I EXPECTED, BUT HE IS ALONE.
HE CAN'T FIGHT AGAINST MY FAMILY.

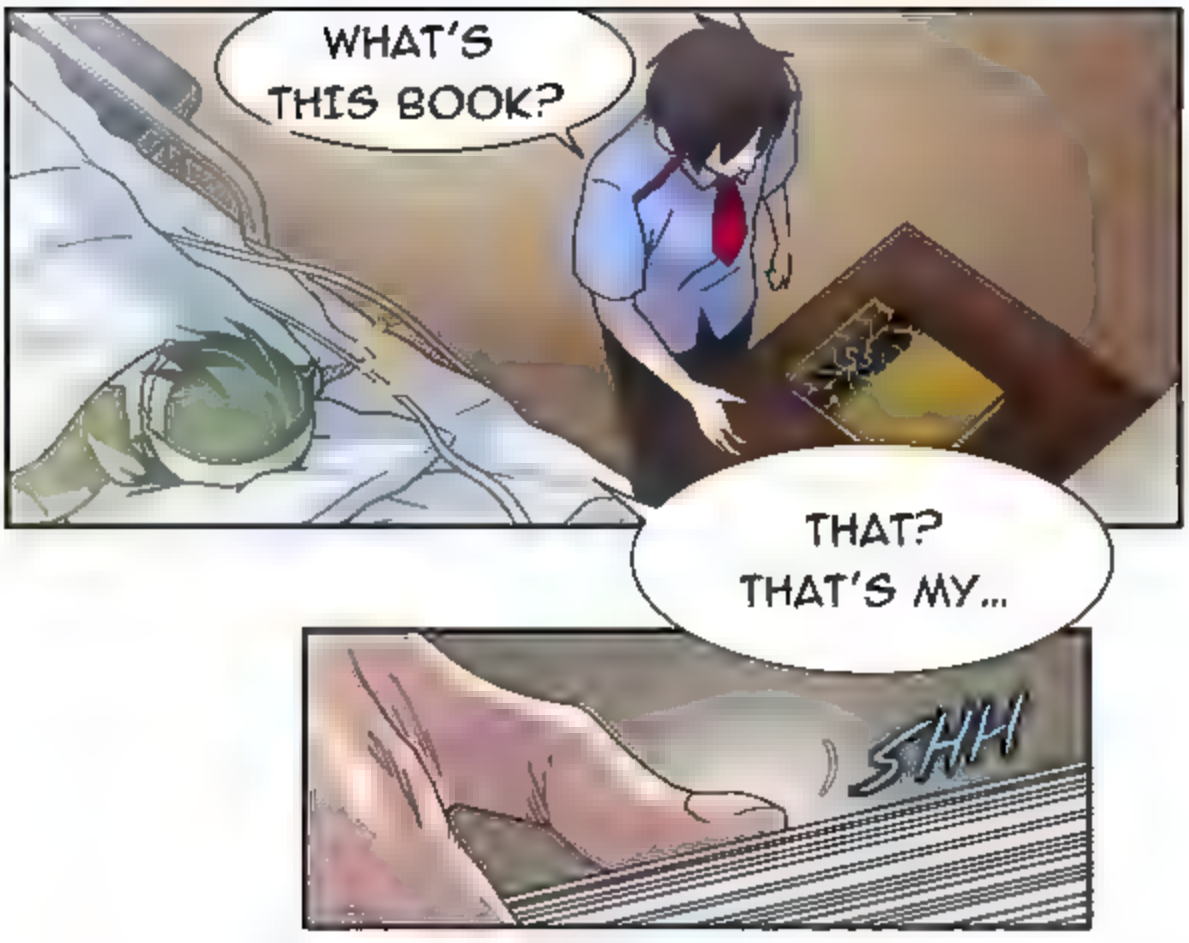
THAT'S RIGHT.


ANYWAY I WILL TRAIN HARD AND GET MY LV UP THEN.
HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE TO RECOVER?
ABOUT A MONTH?

THAT'S TOO LONG FOR A BAD COLD.
YOU SHOULD'VE SAID YOU WERE IN A CAR ACCIDENT.

NOD
CONVINCED

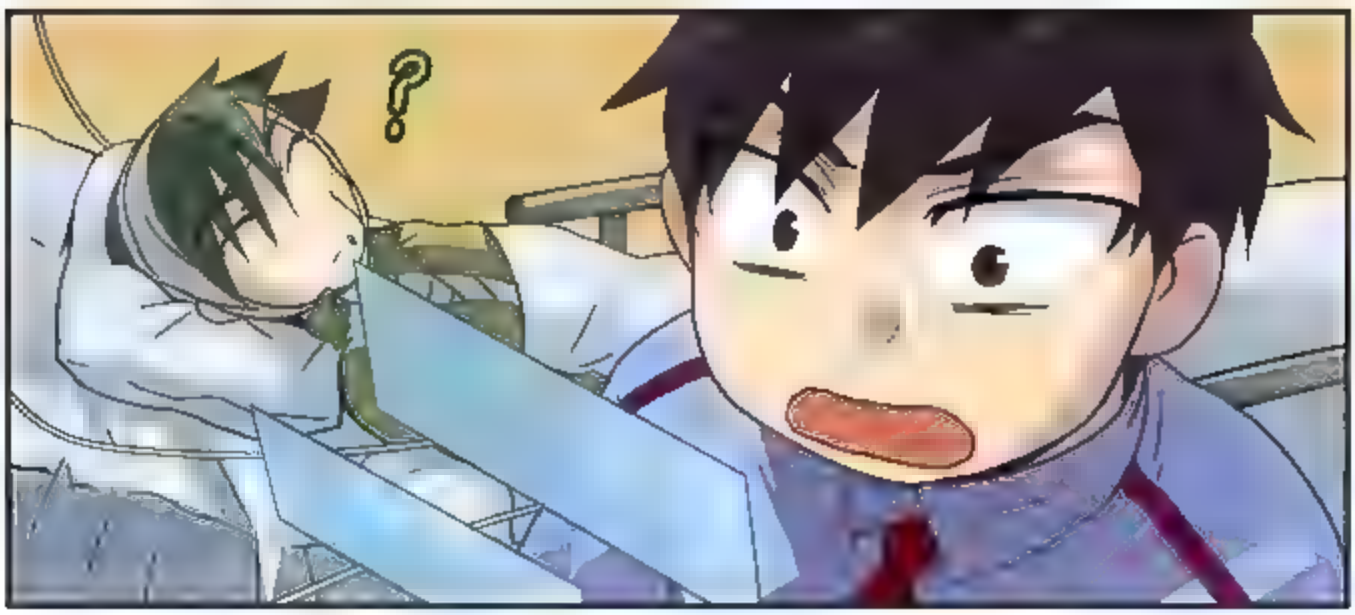




BEEP

THIS IS A SKILL BOOK, [YEON HON PRINCIPLE].

DO YOU WANT TO LEARN THIS SKILL?



HUH?

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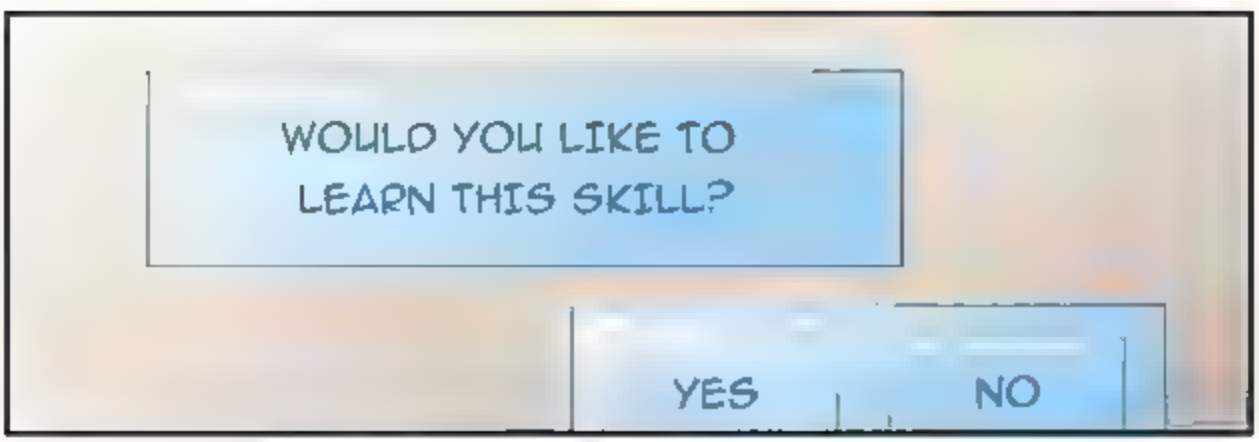


WHAT IS IT?

IS THIS BOOK IMPORTANT?

YES
YOU COULD SAY THAT.

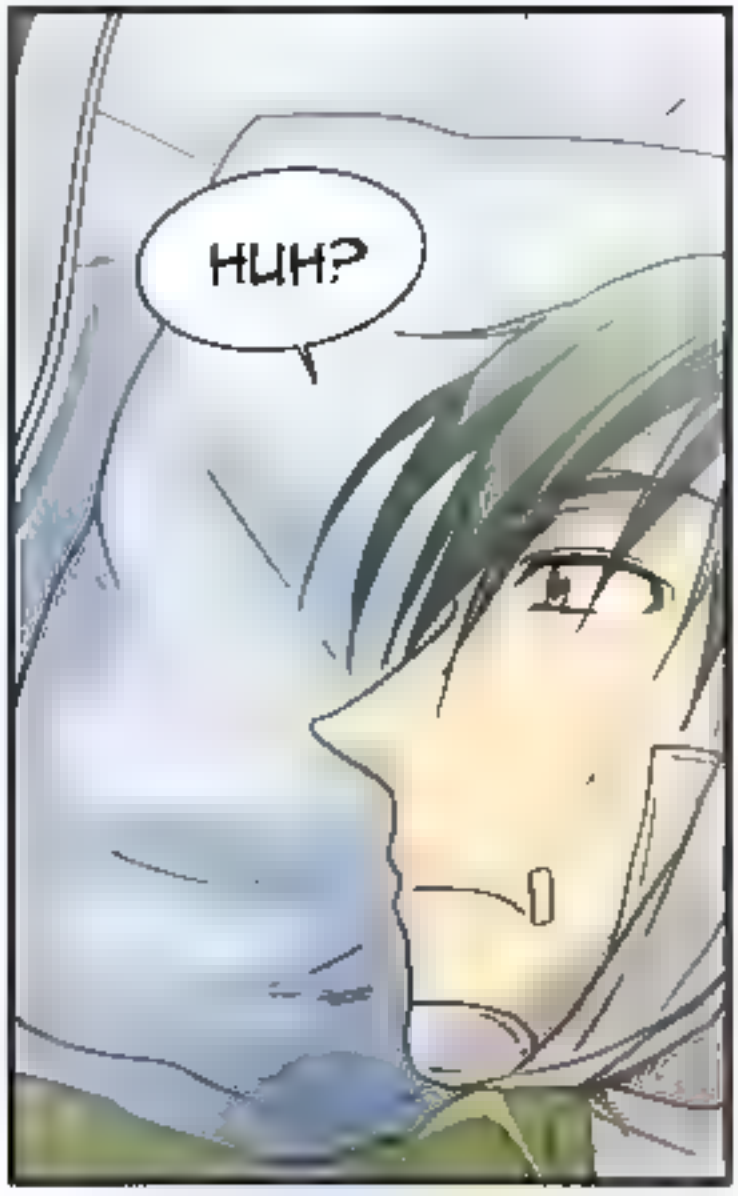
THAT'S FROM THE
YEON HON GUILD.

WE'VE EXCHANGED
MARTIAL ARTS SKILLS
BEFORE.

DO YOU
SHARE SKILLS?
WHAT ABOUT YOUR
PHILOSOPHY?

WE DON'T SHARE OUR PHILOSOPHIES.
BUT UNDERSTANDING EACH OTHER'S PRINCIPLES CAN HELP EACH OTHER.
HMM.
I SEE.

HEY,
CAN I
LEARN THIS?


HUH?

YOU CAN'T.
YOU NEED TO LEARN YEON HON'S BASIC SKILL FIRST.
IT'S ONE OF THEIR SKILLS TO CONTROL ENERGY.
WE RECEIVED THE BOOK TO HELP TO UNDERSTAND THEIR PRINCIPLES
SO YOU MEAN...
?

HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT ENERGY CONTROLLING?

THERE IS SOMETHING CALLED 'CHI' IN THIS WORLD, AND YOU CAN SAVE IT INSIDE YOUR BODY THROUGH HONING YOUR ENERGY CONTROLLING SKILL.

*CHI VITAL ENERGY BELIEVED TO CIRCULATE THROUGH THE BODY IN CURRENTS IN MARTIAL ARTS

MANA
Chakras

IN EUROPE,
CHI IS CALLED MANA.
AND IN EAST ASIA,
IT'S CALLED CHAKRAS.

IN A TOWN CALLED "TOWER OF GOD', I HEARD IT'S CALLED SHINSU.

EACH SCHOOL
USES THIS ENERGY
IN A DIFFERENT WAY,

AND YEON HON GUILD
USES CHI THROUGH ITS
ENERGY CONTROLLING SKILL.

OH! I THINK I KNOW THAT.

THERE ARE DIFFERENT KINDS OF ENERGY CONTROLLING,

AND YOU CAN'T LEARN MORE THAN 2 DIFFERENT SKILLS, RIGHT?

YEAH IT'S SIMILAR.

BY THE WAY, DID YOU LEARN THAT FROM GAMES?

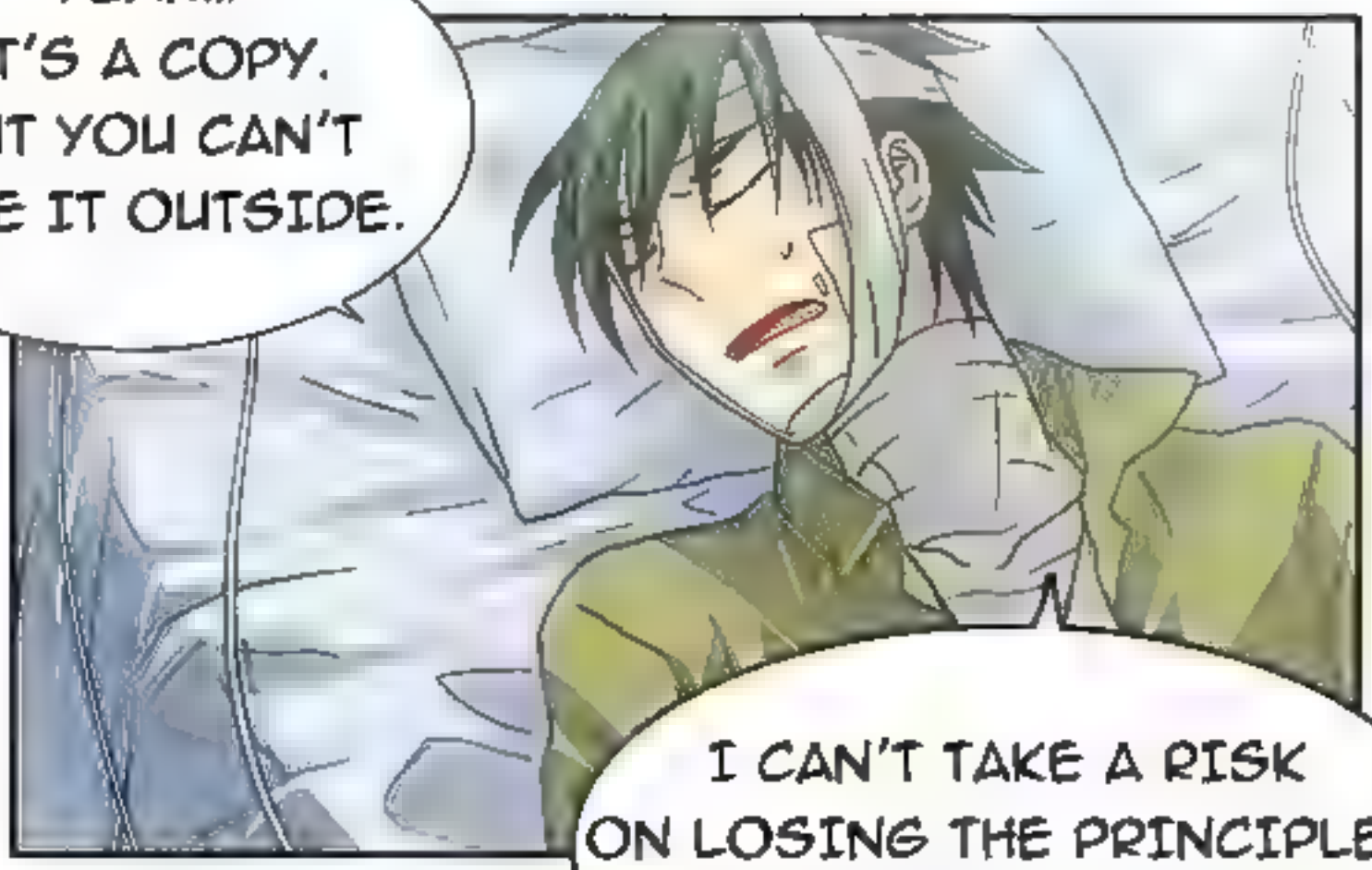
YES. MARTIAL ARTS GAMES.

ANYWAYS, YOU CAN LEARN IT IF YOU WANT,

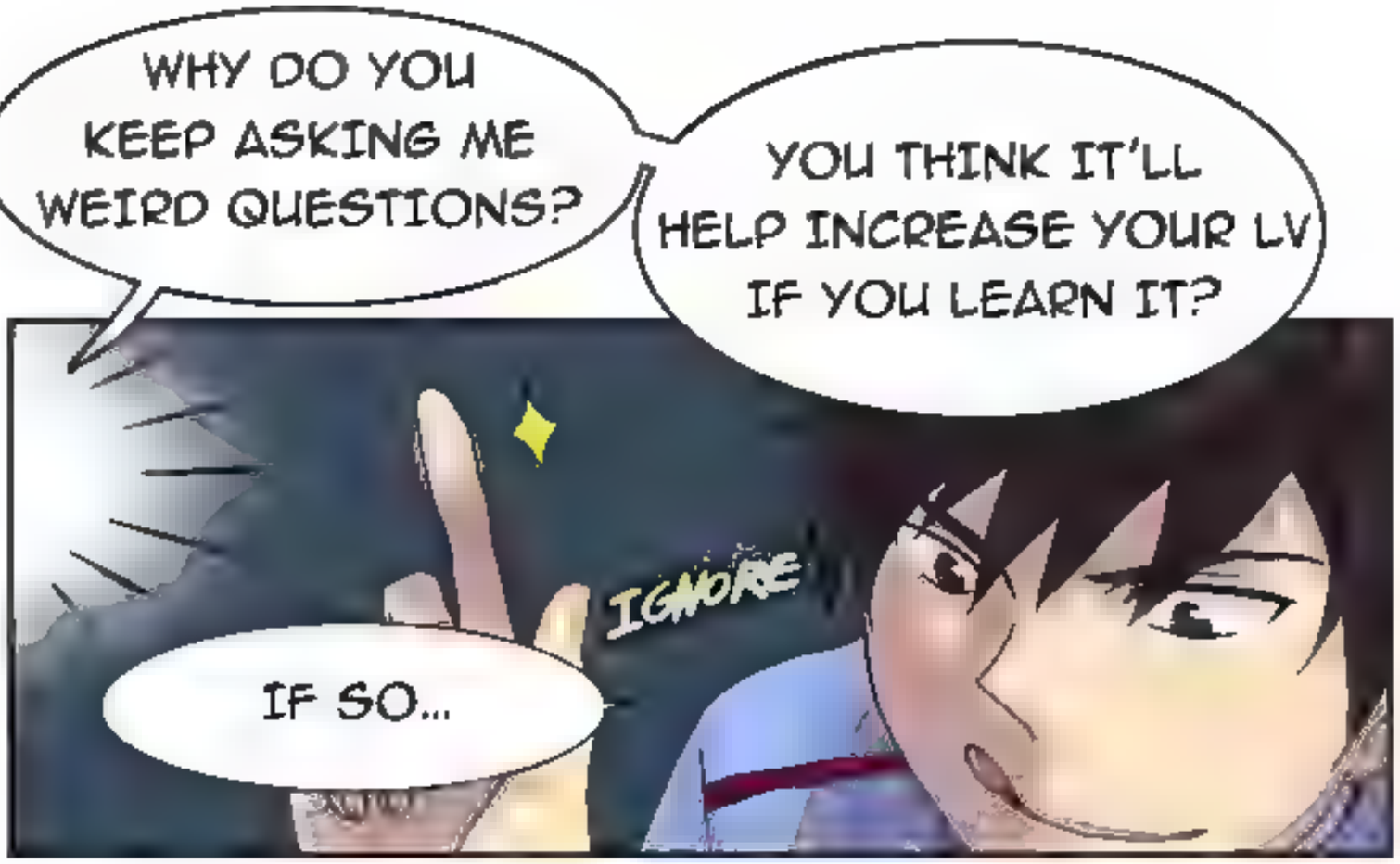
BUT I THINK YOU CAN'T.

.....

YEAH...
IT'S A COPY.
BUT YOU CAN'T TAKE IT OUTSIDE.

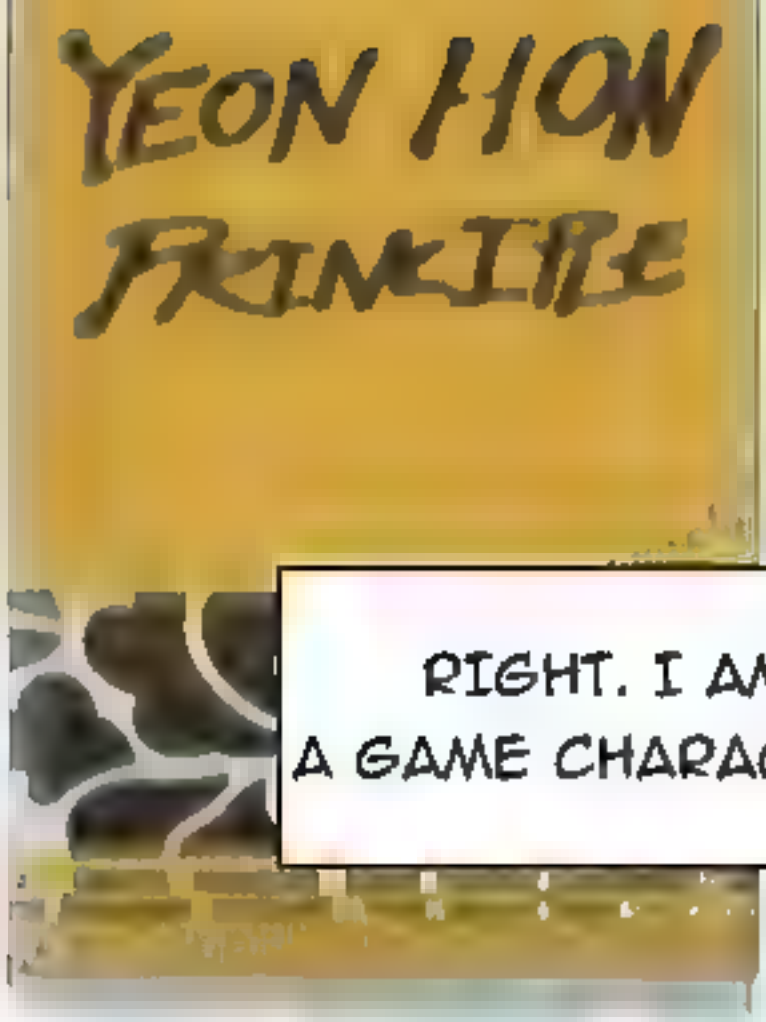


I CAN'T TAKE A RISK ON LOSING THE PRINCIPLES OF THE YEON HON GUILD.



YEON HON PRINCIPLE

SKILL BOOK.



RIGHT. I AM A GAME CHARACTER.

I'M ABLE TO LEARN SKILLS FROM SKILL BOOKS!

I SHOULD'VE KNOWN ALREADY.

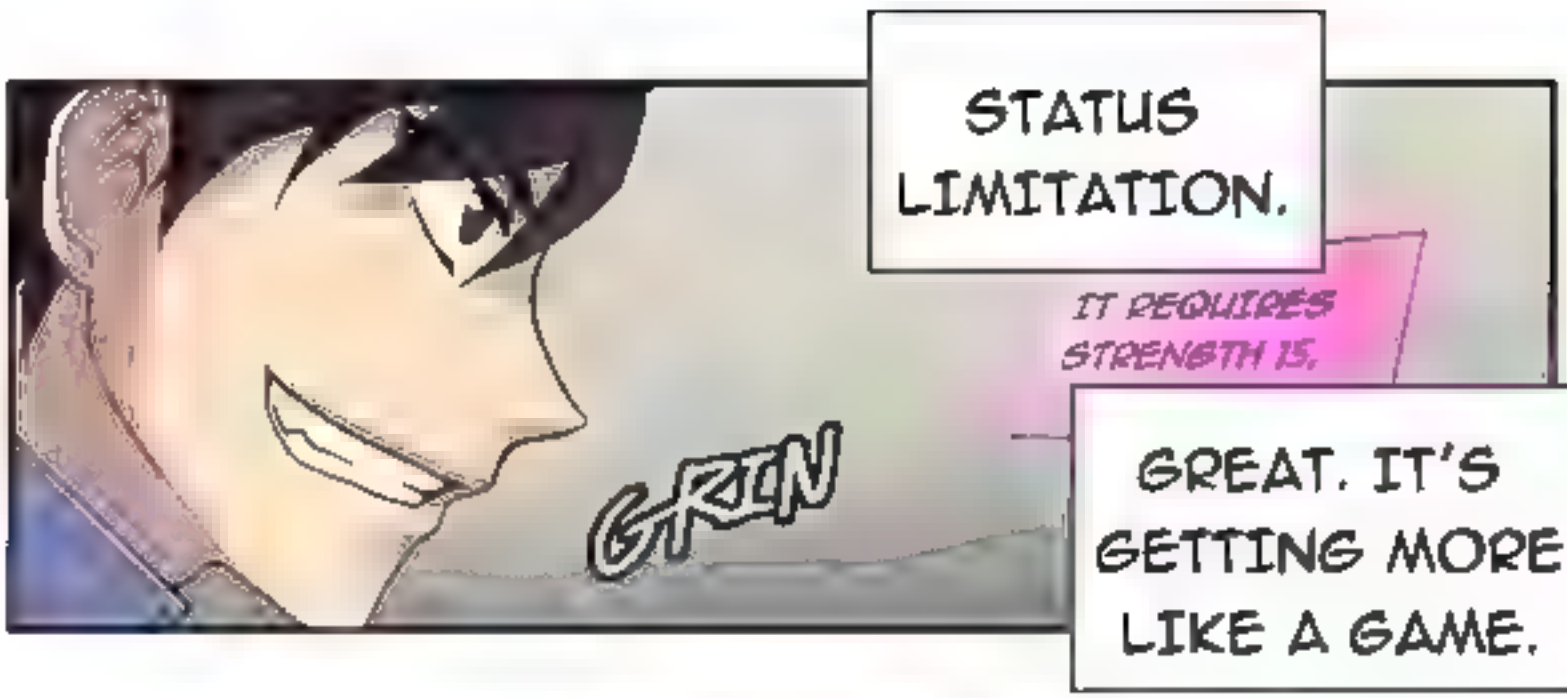
LET'S SEE...

YOU CAN'T LEARN THIS SKILL.

Beep

IT REQUIRES INTELLIGENCE 15.

IT REQUIRES STRENGTH 15.


STATUS LIMITATION.
IT REQUIRES STRENGTH 15.
GRIN
GREAT. IT'S GETTING MORE LIKE A GAME.

NOW MY LV IS 7
AND I HAVE
15 EXTRA POINTS
THAT I CAN USE.

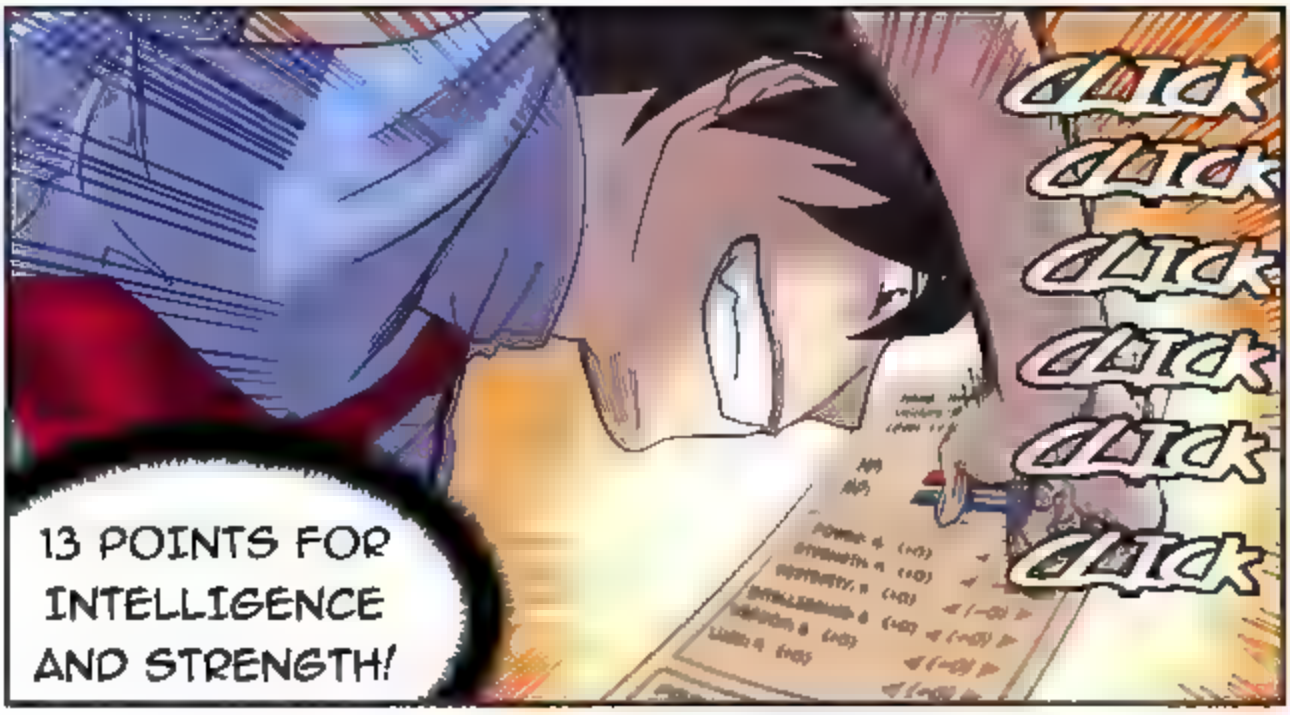
NAME: JIHAN HAN
OCCUPATION: THE GAMER
LEVEL: LV 7

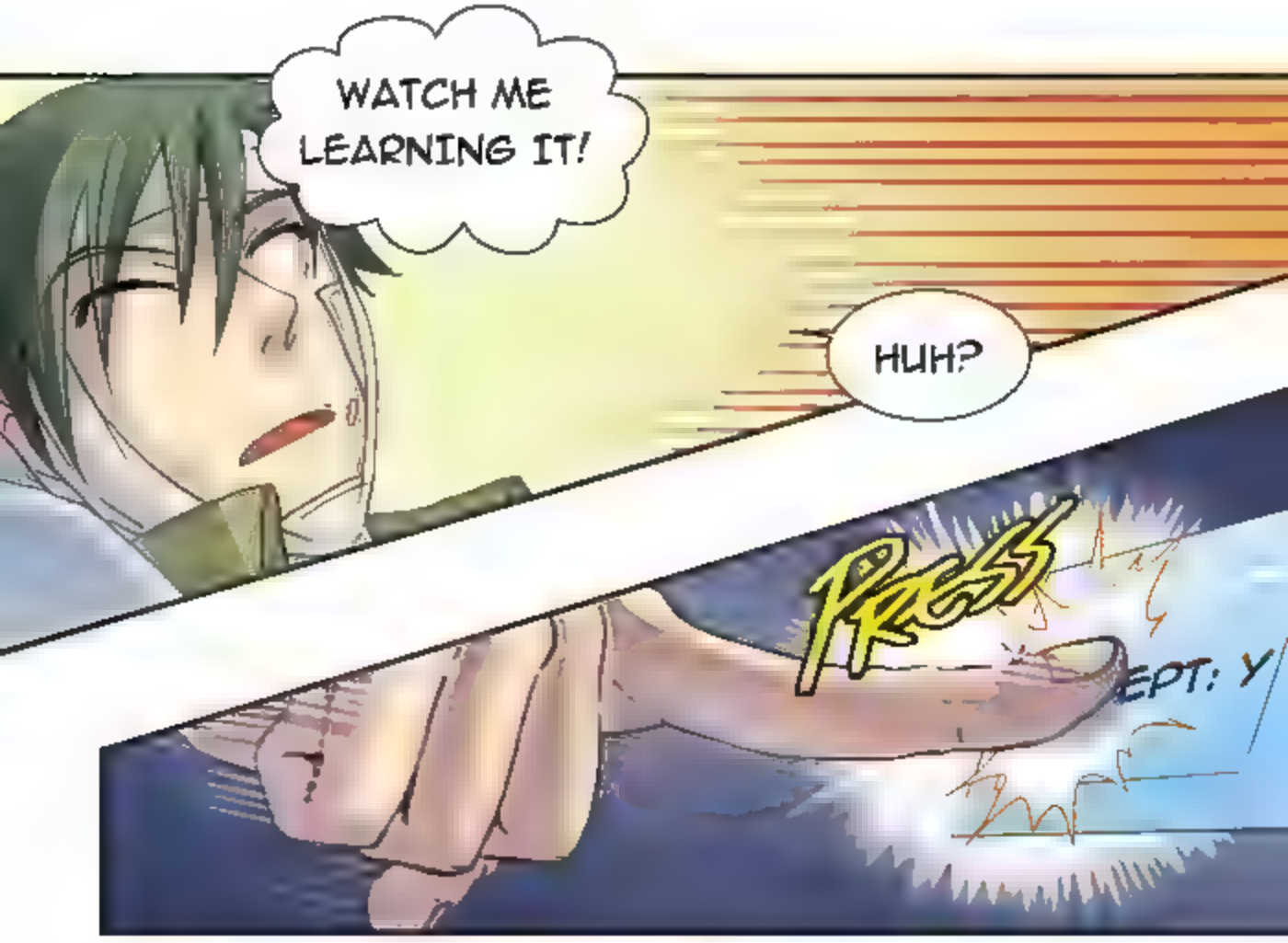
HP: 250/250
MP: 150/150

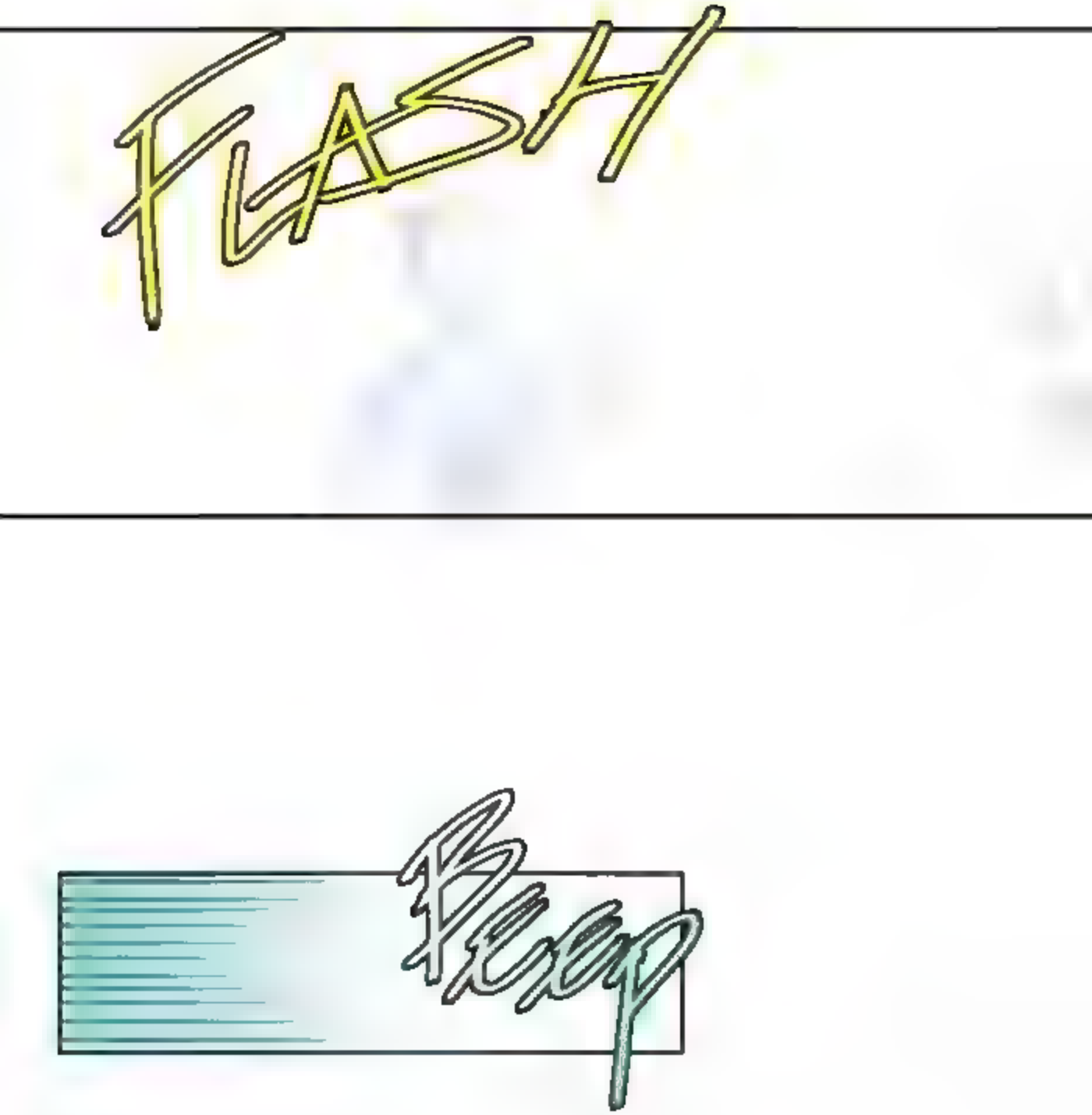
POWER: 15 (+0)
STRENGTH: 9 (+0)
DEXTERITY: 11 (+0)
INTELLIGENCE: 8 (+0)
WISDOM: 6 (+0)
LUCK 9 (+0)

POINT: 15
₩3000

MY INTELLIGENCE IS 8
AND MY STRENGTH IS 9,
SO I ONLY NEED
13 POINTS.


CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
13 POINTS FOR INTELLIGENCE AND STRENGTH!


WATCH ME LEARNING IT!
HUH?
PRESS
EPT: Y


FLASH
BEEP

YOU LEARNED
YEON HON PRINCIPLE SKILL.

[YEON HON PRINCIPLE (ACTIVE) LV 1 EXP: 0.0% MP: 50]

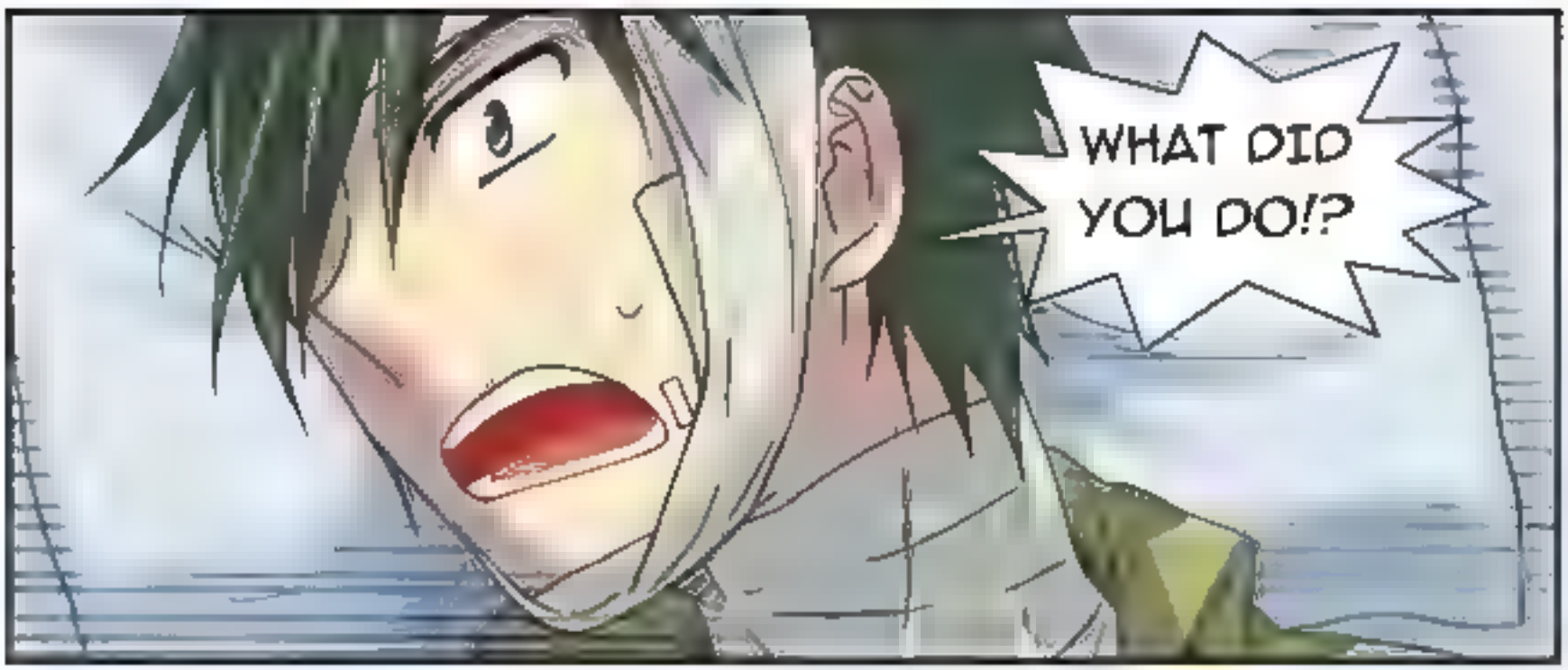
'YEON' MEANS BURNING AND 'HON' MEANS SPIRIT.
THIS SKILL IS FOR RECOVERY.
SHAMANISM HAS FLOURISHED IN ASIA,
AND SOME PEOPLE CAN POSSESS SPIRITS
INSIDE THEIR BODY AND USE THE POWER
FROM SPIRITS DIRECTLY. WITH THIS SKILL,
YOU CAN HEAL YOURSELF OR OTHERS.

WITH SPIRIT STONE: 50 HP AND 50 MP RECOVERED.
ABNORMAL CONDITION AND DISEASE RECOVERED.
WITHOUT SPIRIT STONE: 50 HP RECOVERED.
ABNORMAL CONDITION AND DISEASE RECOVERED.

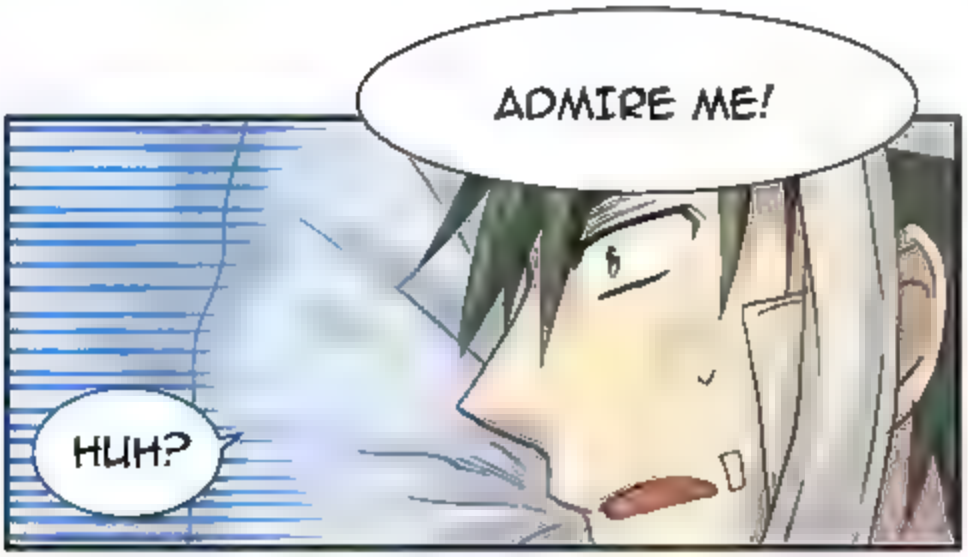
SHHH

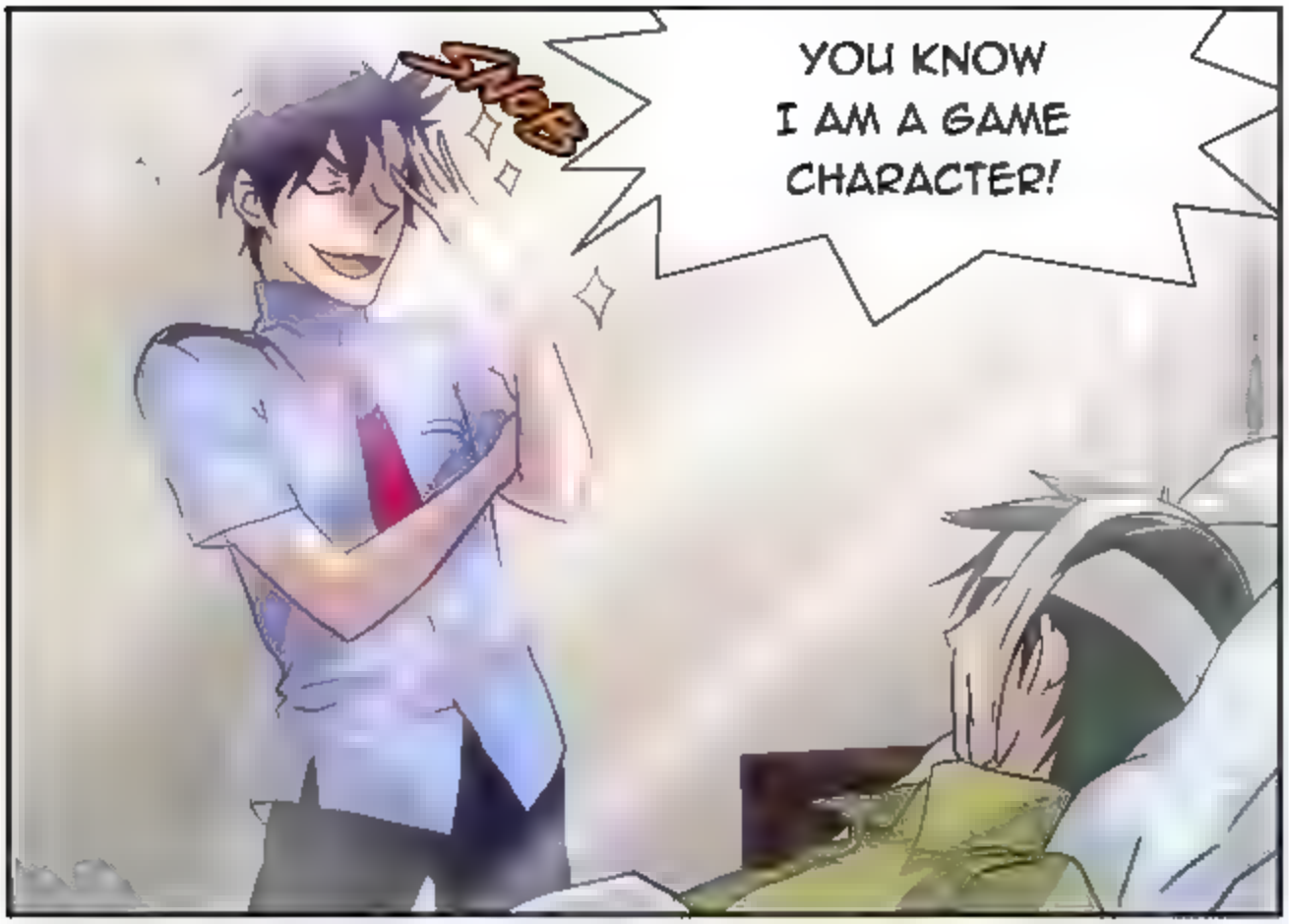
I CAN ACTUALLY FEEL MYSELF LEARNING.
SO, THIS IS YEON HON PRINCIPLE!

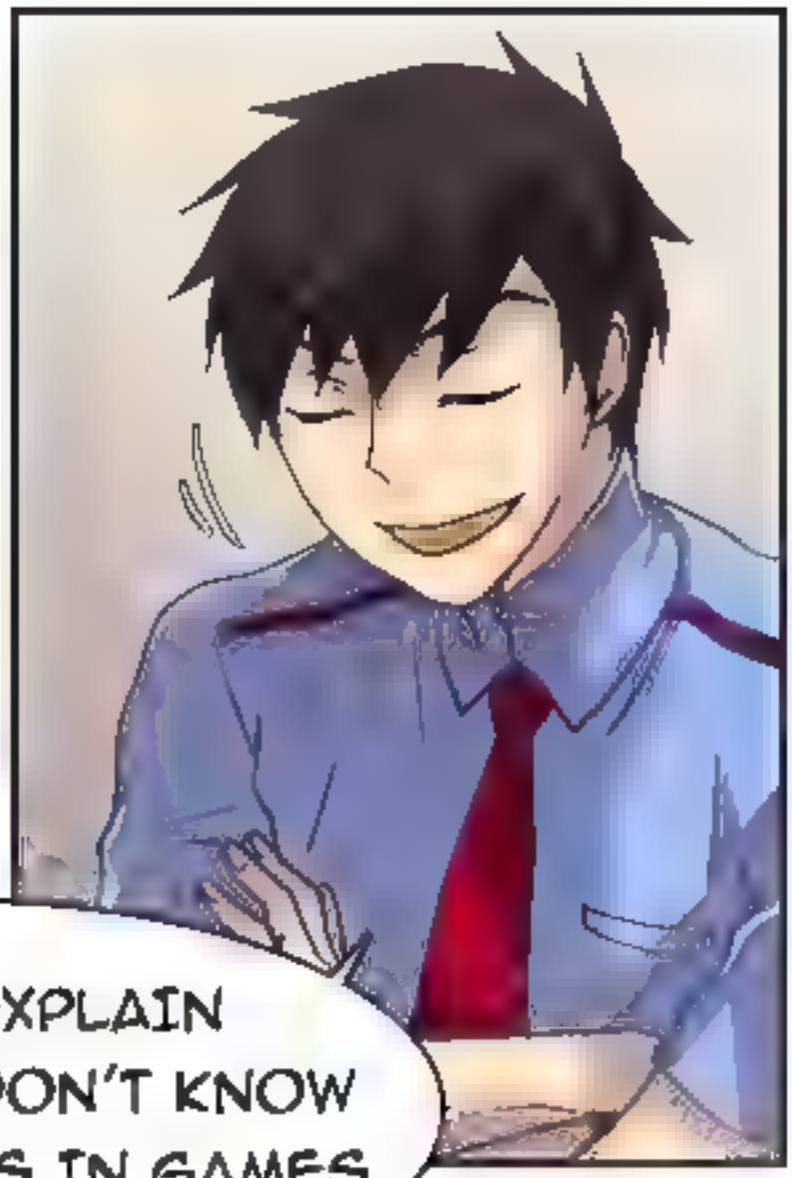
I THINK I CAN
USE IT RIGHT AWAY!


WHAT DID YOU DO!?

HA HA


ADMIRE ME!
HUH?


YOU KNOW I AM A GAME CHARACTER!



LET ME EXPLAIN
SINCE YOU DON'T KNOW
HOW IT WORKS IN GAMES.

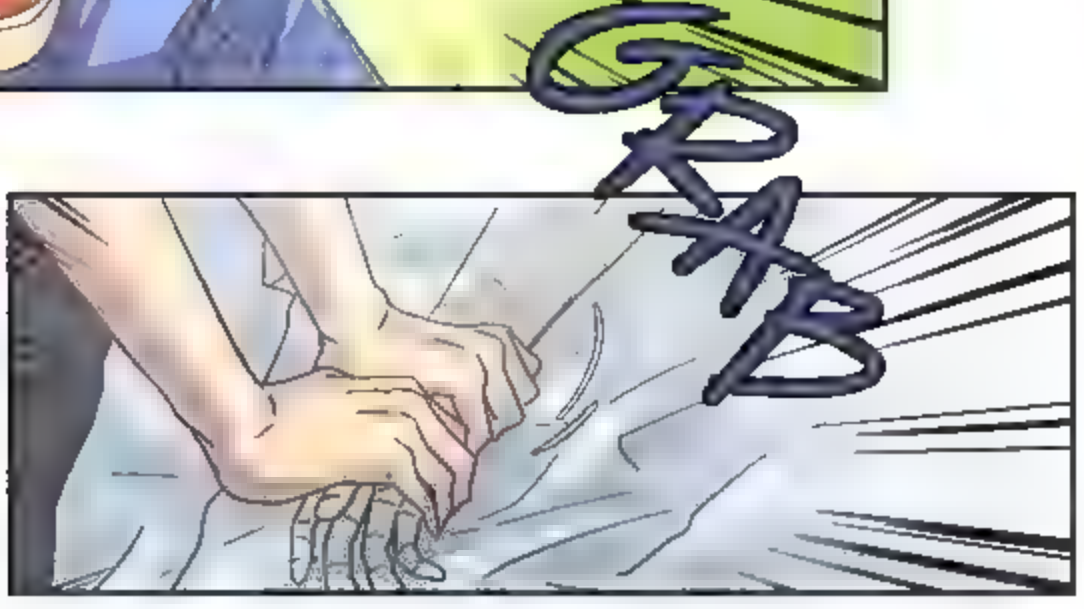
IN GAMES, YOU NEED TO LEARN SKILLS BEFORE YOU CAN USE THEM.
BRANDISH SKILL!
THERE ARE MANY SYSTEMS,
AND ONE OF THEM IS THE SKILL BOOK SYSTEM.
POP
WITH SKILL BOOKS, YOU CAN LEARN THE SKILL RIGHT AWAY.
AND BY DOING SO, THE BOOK DISAPPEARS.
BOOM

SO, YOU MEAN...

RIGHT. I LEARNED THE YEON HON PRINCIPLE!
AND THAT'S WHY THE BOOK HAS DISAPPEARED.
YEON HON

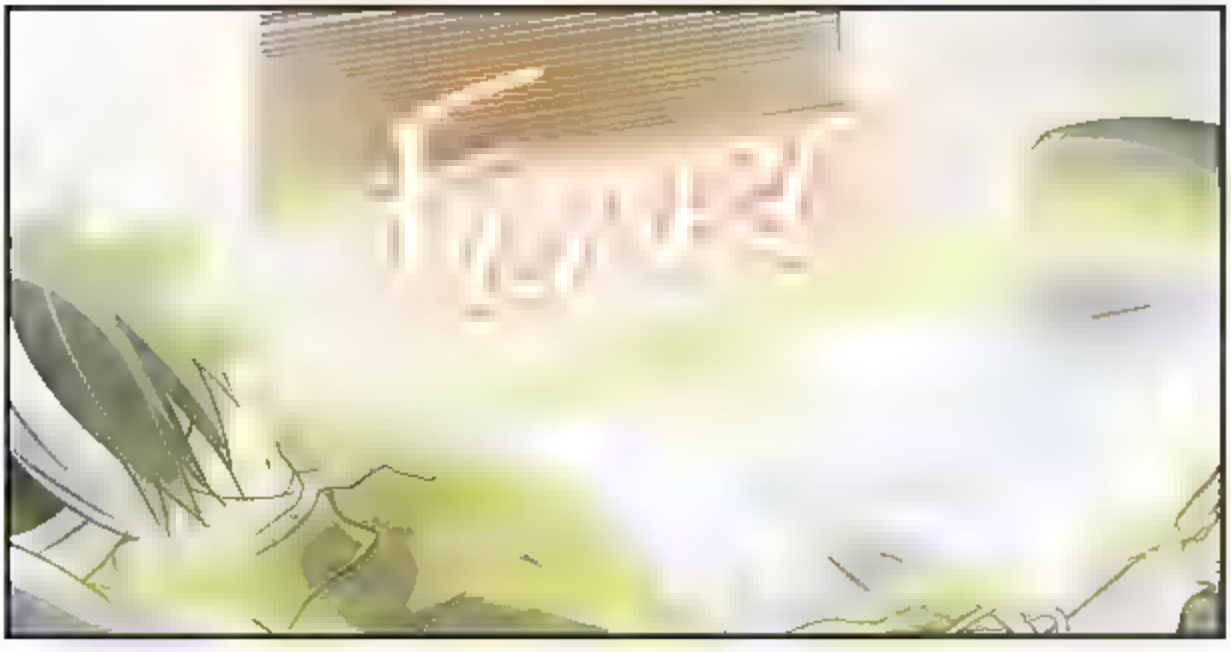
GOSH...

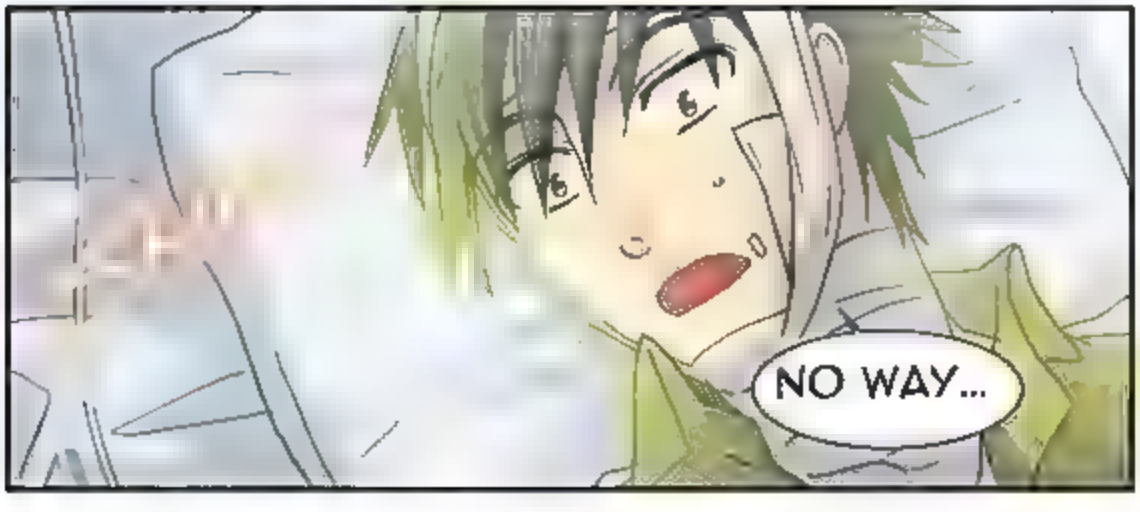
SO NOW...
I CAN DO THIS!

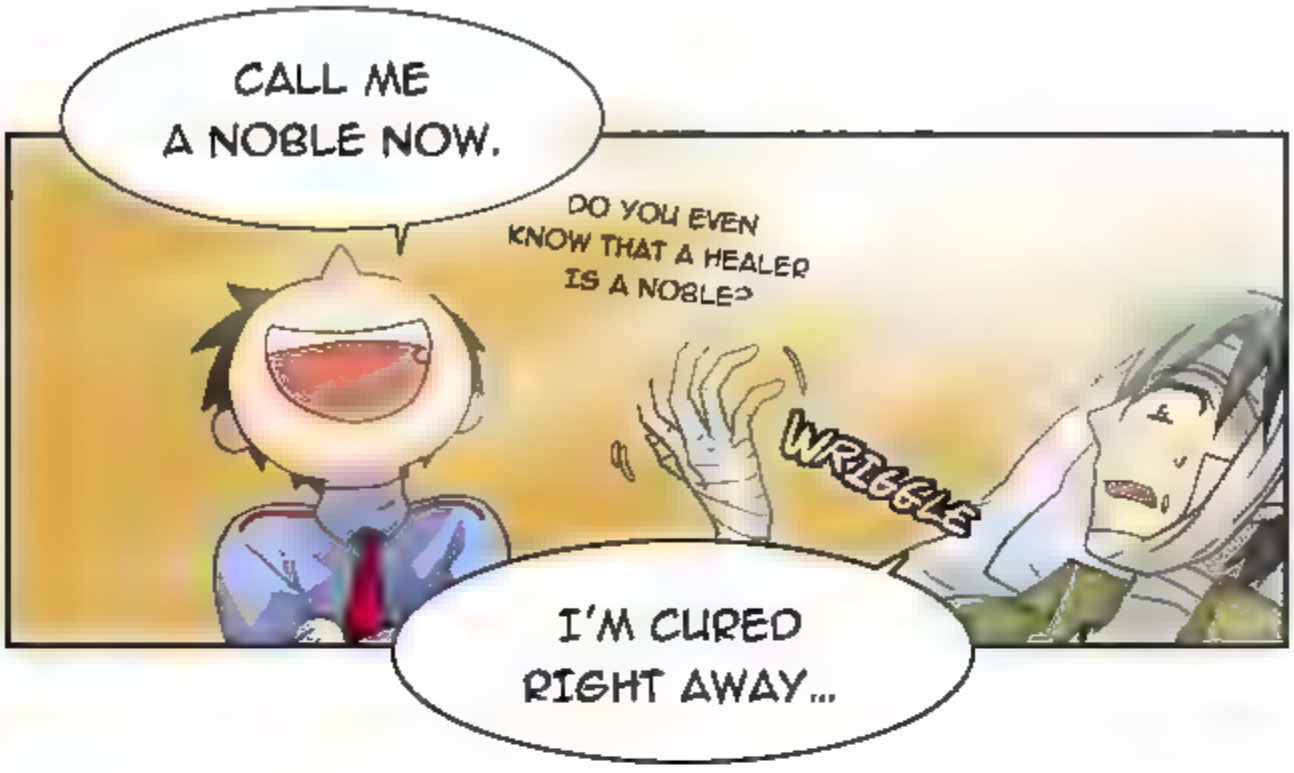

GRAB

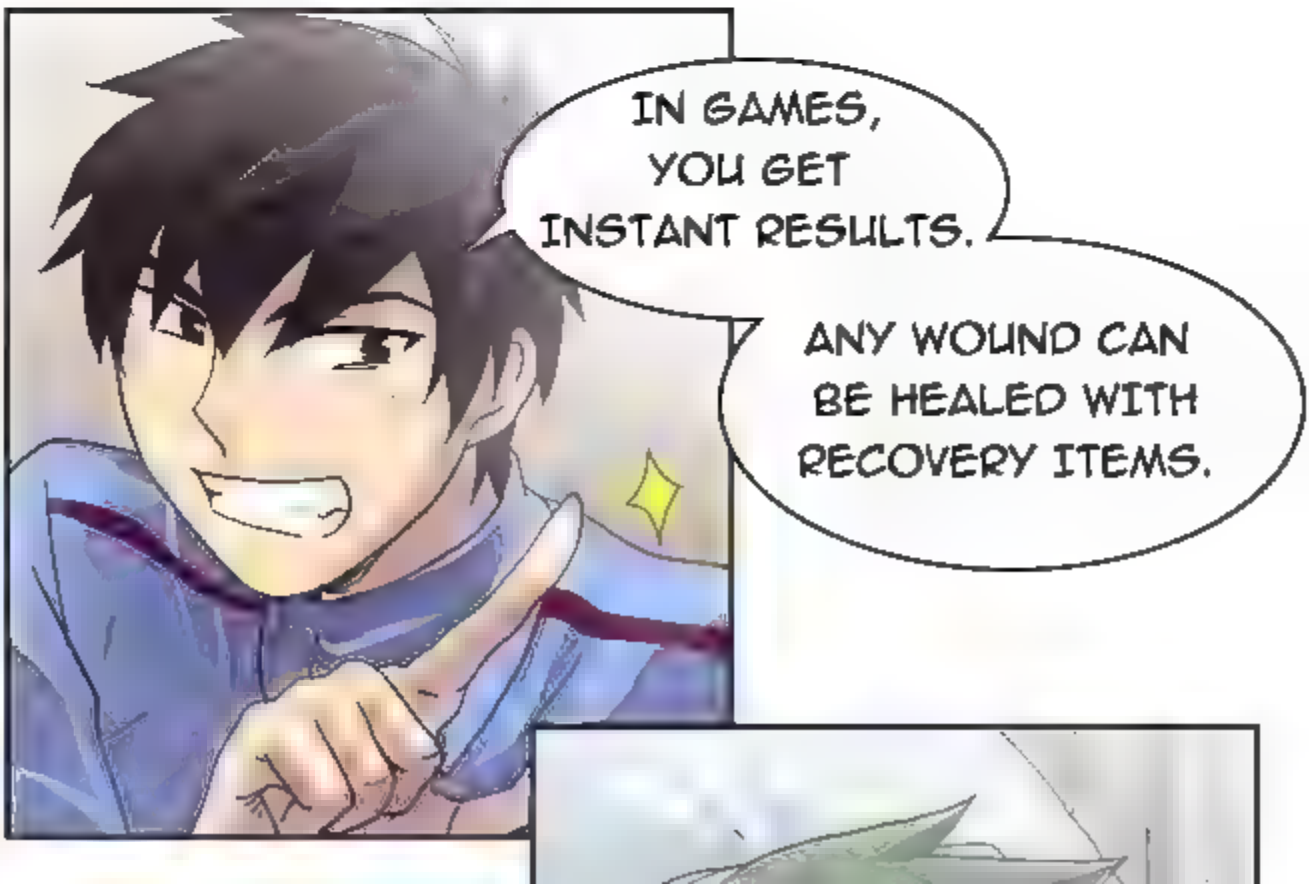
GRIN
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

YEON HON PRINCIPLE!




NO WAY...


CALL ME A NOBLE NOW.
DO YOU EVEN KNOW THAT A HEALER IS A NOBLE?
WRIGGLE
I'M CURED RIGHT AWAY...


IN GAMES, YOU GET INSTANT RESULTS.
ANY WOUND CAN BE HEALED WITH RECOVERY ITEMS.

YOU...
HUMBUG...
HAHA.
COME ON.

LET ME HEAL
YOU FIRST.
GRIN

YEON HON PRINCIPLE!

BY USING THIS SKILL TWICE IN A ROW,

SEONIL WAS HEALED RIGHT AWAY.

THE
GAMER

IT'S ALREADY DARK OUTSIDE.

SEYOUNG WAS SO SURPRISED THAT I HEALED SEONIL.

SHE TOLD ME TO COME BACK AFTER SCHOOL TOMORROW.
ANYWAYS, IT WAS AWESOME!

YEON HON PRINCIPLE. RECOVERING SKILL.

THAT MEANS, NOW I'VE BECOME A HEALER.

IN GAMES,
A HEALER IS
A CHARACTER WITH
HEALING POWERS.

USUALLY A HEALER'S
ATTACK AND DEFENSE SKILLS
ARE WEAKER THAN OTHER
CHARACTERS',

BUT
I'M DIFFERENT.

SKILL SCREEN.

STATUS SCREEN.

Swoosh

STA-RE

I DON'T THINK THERE IS ANY LIMITATION ON THE NUMBER OF SKILLS.

NAME: JIHA
CUPATION: THE GAME
LEVEL: LV
THIS MUST BE MY CAREER.

THE GAMER.

IT'S BEEN MY OCCUPATION SINCE I REALIZED MY ABILITY.
THE GAMER
AND THIS OCCUPATION SHOULD ACTUALLY BE MY ABILITY.
SO WHAT'S "THE GAMER"?
USUALLY, IT'S SOMEONE WHO PLAYS COMPUTER GAMES.
IN OTHER WORDS... A GAME PLAYER.

SO WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

ORAMADI
MADE BY PHARMACEUTICS
SEAPHUM CO., LTD

USED INSIDE THE MOUTH
WHEN WOUNDED
CURES ORAL CAVITY

FOSIDINE
MADE BY PHARMACEUTICS
KWANGMYEONG CO. LTD

FOSIDINE IS FOR WOUNDS
+HP 5
CURES BLEEDING
CURES INFECTION

BAKHAS
MADE BY PHARMACEUTICS
AEINS CO. LTD

1. BAKHAS FOR FATIGUE/

THIRD,
MY BODY IS LIKE
A GAME CHARACTER'S.

I LOST
[illegible]

FOURTH,
PARTICULAR BOOKS
ARE LIKE SKILL BOOKS.

YEON HO
PRINCIPLE

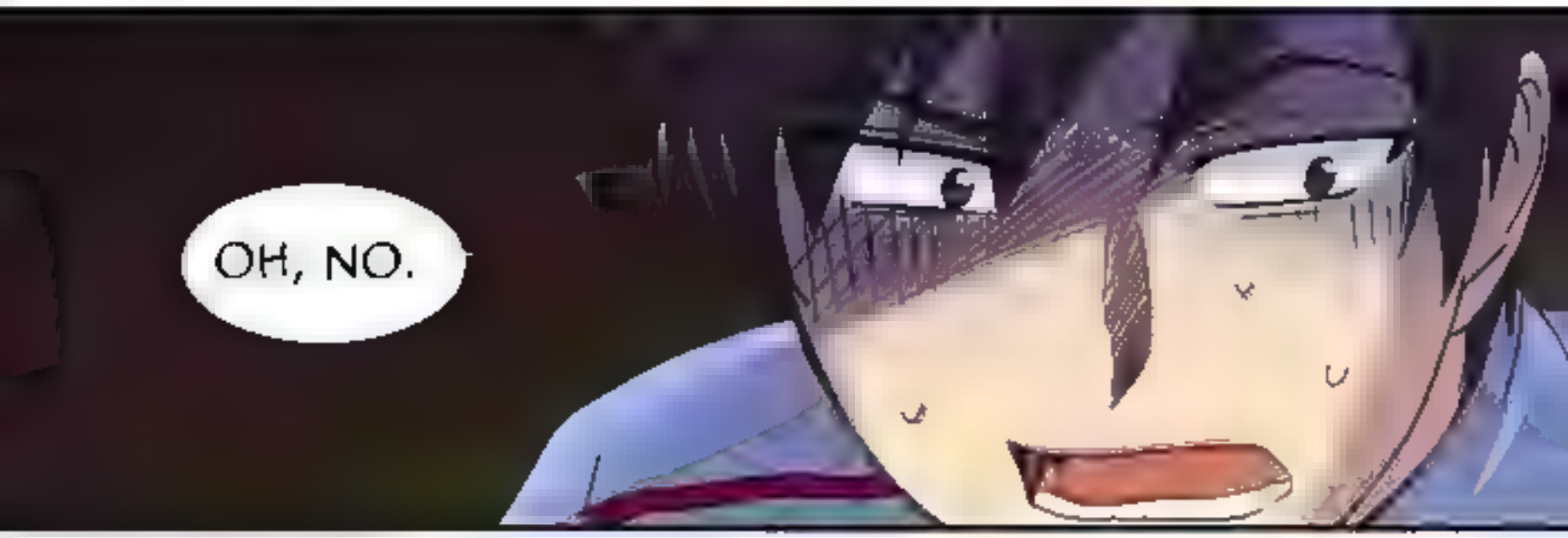
SHA

THIS IS WHAT I KNOW SO FAR.
MY YEON HON PRINCIPLE LEVEL IS NOW 1.
ITS LV WILL INCREASE IF I REPEATEDLY USE IT...
THEN, WHAT ELSE IS AFFECTING MY STATUS RIGHT NOW?
WHAT MORE CAN I DO WITH THIS OCCUPATION AND MY ABILITY, AS "THE GAMER"?

HMM~
SHH
SPUTTER

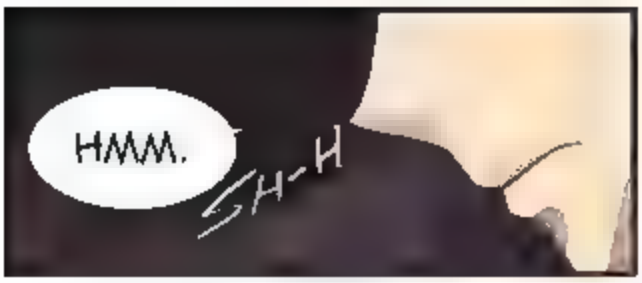
I'M GETTING A HEADACHE.
TAP

SHHH


OH, NO.

PROTECTED SPACE.
IS SEONG-GON STILL MAKING THE PROTECTED SPACE SOMEWHERE?

ZOMBIES AGAIN?
THERE AREN'T MANY THIS TIME...

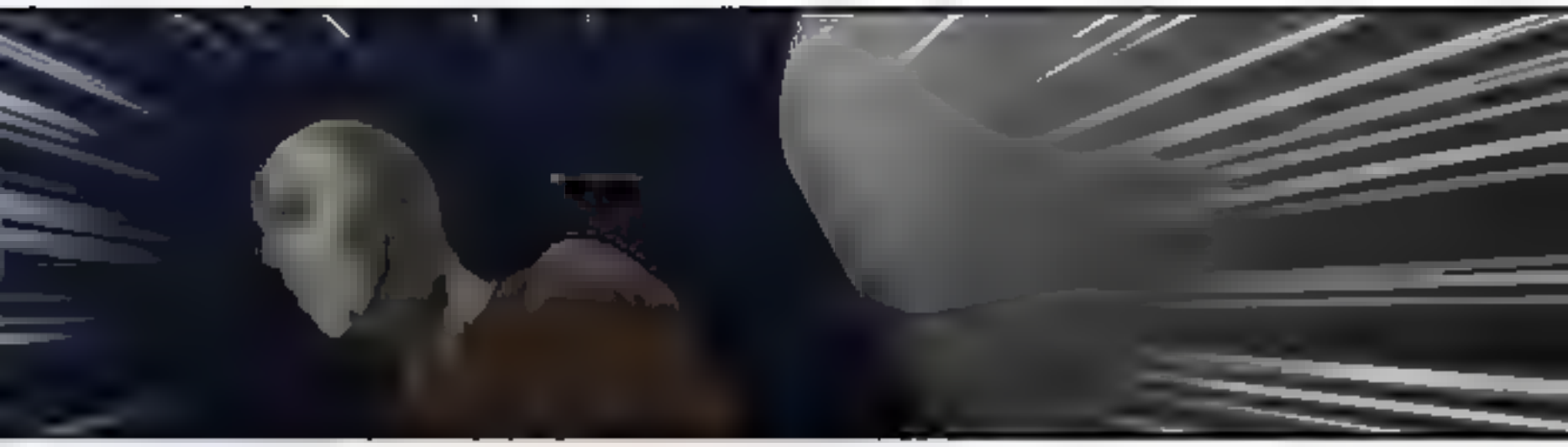

HMM.
SH-H

FINE. I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT THERE ARE ONLY A FEW ZOMBIES.
THAT'S GOOD FOR ME.

INVENTORY.
GRAB
SWOOSH

*GORDON FREEMAN IS A FICTIONAL CHARACTER AND THE MAIN PROTAGONIST OF THE 'HALF-LIFE' VIDEO GAME SERIES.

TAP



STRONG
HIT!

ROAR
HP
DROP

IT WASN'T CRITICAL BUT... LOOK AT THE DAMAGE.
SWOOP
IS IT BECAUSE I RAN FAST AND THEN HIT HIM?

STRONG HIT!
POW
FLOP
DROP
DOES IT TAKE 4 STRONG HITS FOR 1 ZOMBIE?
SHH

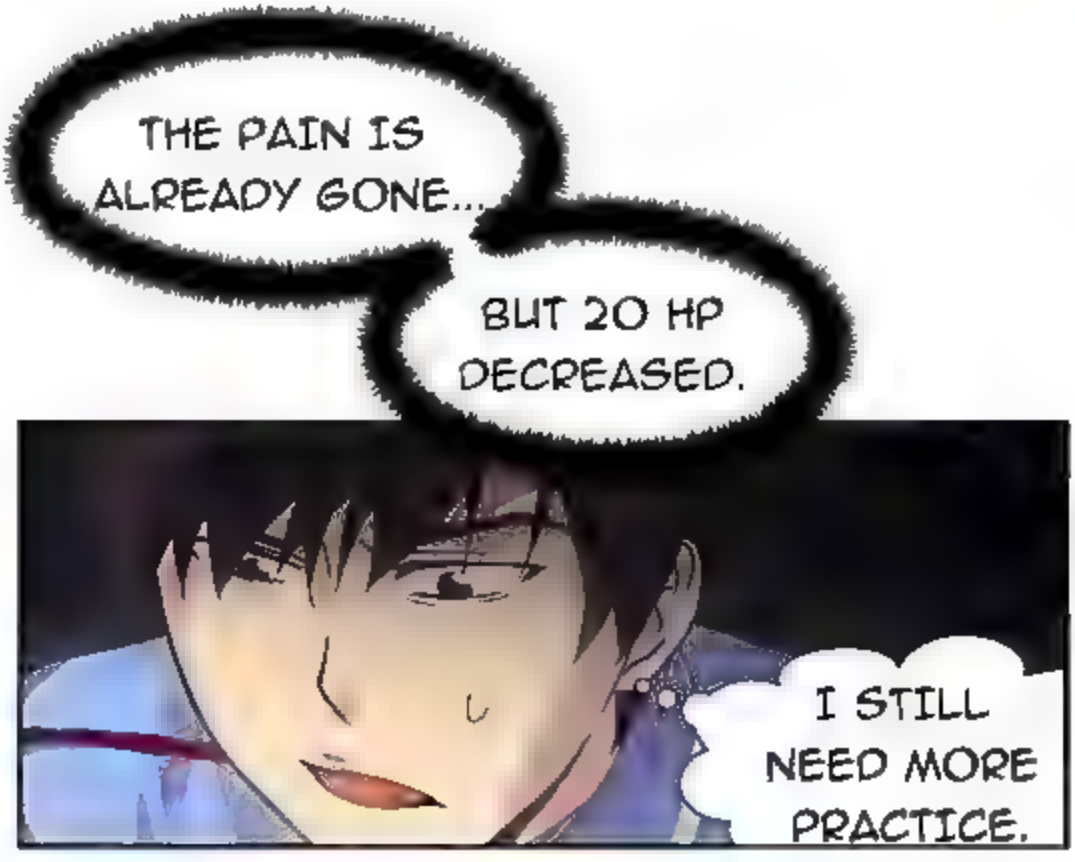
SWOOP
ARGH!

KICK

DID YOU JUST BITE ME, YOU BASTARD!?
SLAM

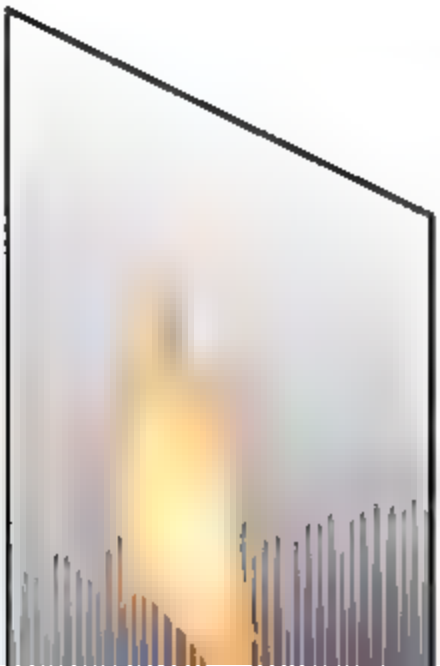
SLAM

PHEW.....
HSS
SHH
FLOP

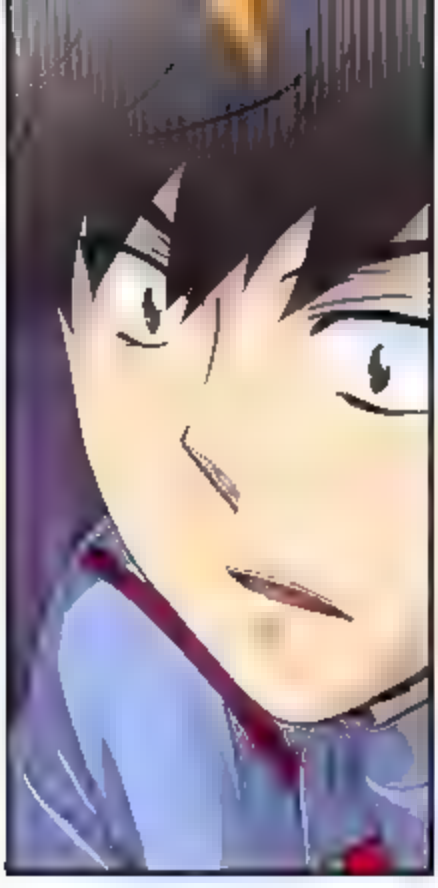

THE PAIN IS ALREADY GONE...
BUT 20 HP DECREASED.
I STILL NEED MORE PRACTICE.

FOR A 'LEVEL UP',
I HAVE TO KILL
ZOMBIES...

I AM
A GAME CHARACTER
BUT IT'S STILL HARD TO
FIGHT WITH ZOMBIES.



HOW CAN I
KILL THEM BEFORE
THEY ATTACK ME?



RIGHT!
MANA POWER
ATTACK!
SNAP
ALERT

HOW COULD I
FORGET THIS?
A SKILL TO ATTACK
WITH MANA
FROM DISTANCE.
[MANA POWER ATTACK] IS
CREATED. YOU'RE ABLE TO
DIRECTLY FOR AT
MY INTELLIGENCE IS
15 NOW, SO IT WILL
CAUSE SOME DAMAGE!
LET ME CHECK...

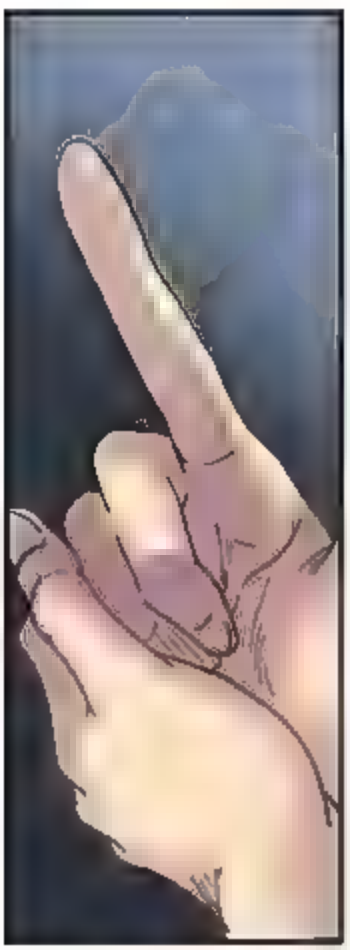
[MANA POWER ATTACK (ACTIVE) LV 1 EXP: 0.0%]
A SKILL TO ATTACK WITH MANA.
IT'S LINKED TO INTELLIGENCE
AND IT INCREASES ATTACK POWER.
RANGE: 10M.

BUT HOW CAN I DO THIS?

HOW IS MANA RELEASED?

I JUST HAVE TO TRY...

SHE'S MY TARGET.



MANA
POWER ATTACK.

FLARE

BOOM

DROP

ARGH!

TWINGE

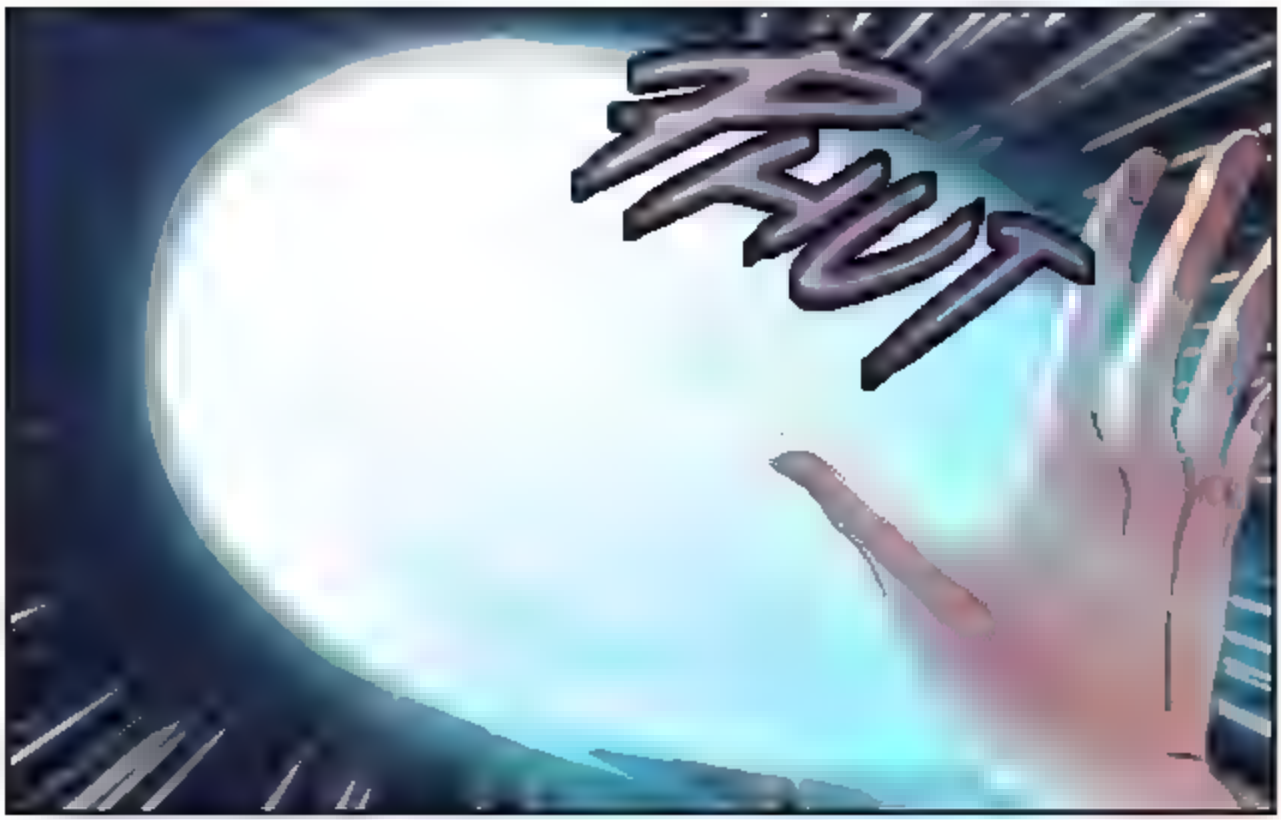
IT'S RELEASED FROM THE PALM!
IT WAS COVERED BY MY FINGERS SO IT COULDN'T REACH HER.

OK.
THEN...

GRAB

SMACK

MANA
POWER ATTACK!


FWUT

THE GAMER

STORY BY SANGYOUNG SEONG
ILLUST BY SANG-A

LINE Webtoon

EVERYONE HAS THEIR NAME,
AND NAMING IS THE MOST
EFFECTIVE WAY TO
DISTINGUISH BETWEEN
PEOPLE. BUT SOMETIMES,
NAMES AREN'T ENOUGH
TO EXPLAIN WHO THEY ARE
LIKE, SO WE MAKE NICKNAMES.
NICKNAMES PROVIDE
MORE INTIMACY,
AND SOMETIMES REFLECT
THEIR NATURES.

-ANTHROPOLOGIST
ON HUMAN NATURE

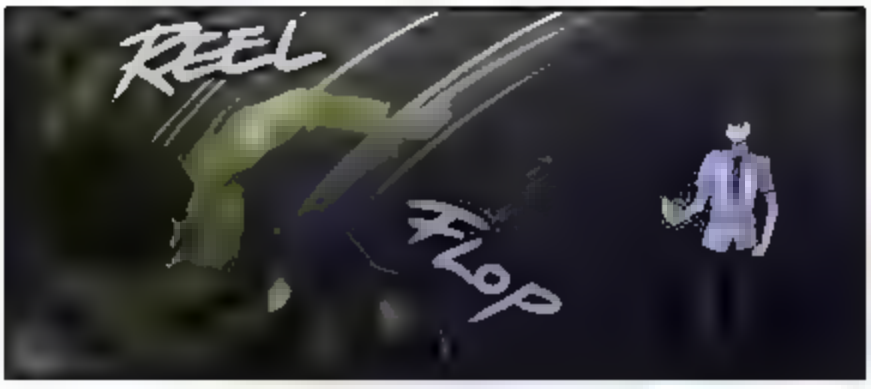
THE GAMER

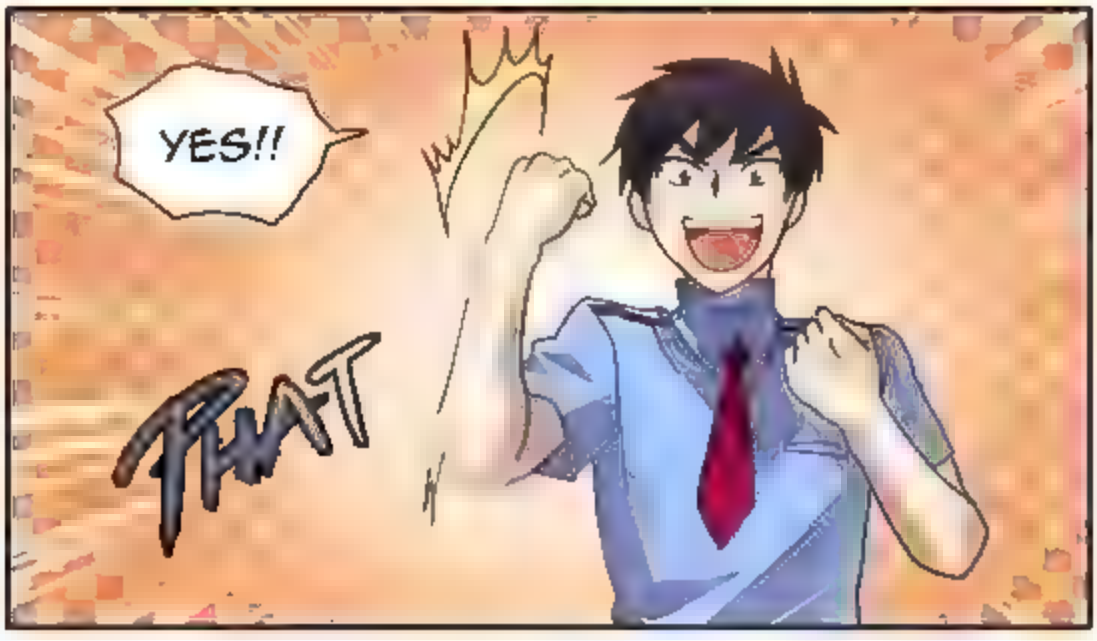
STORY BY SANGYOUNG SEONG
ILLUST BY SANG-A

CHAPTER 4
SHOUT MY NAME!

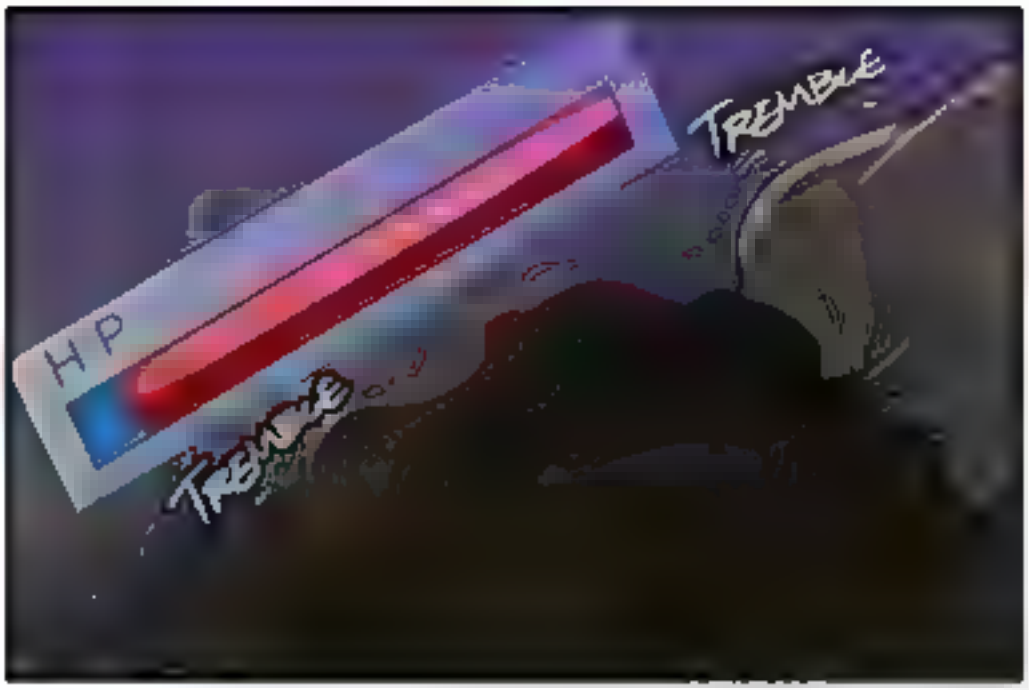
SHHH

BOOM


REEL
FLOP

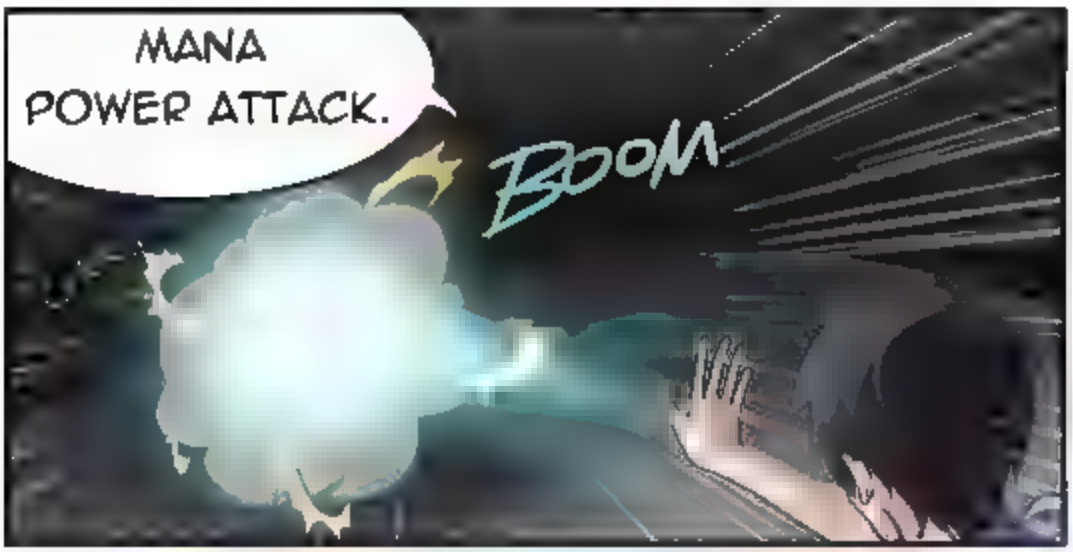

YES!!
THAT

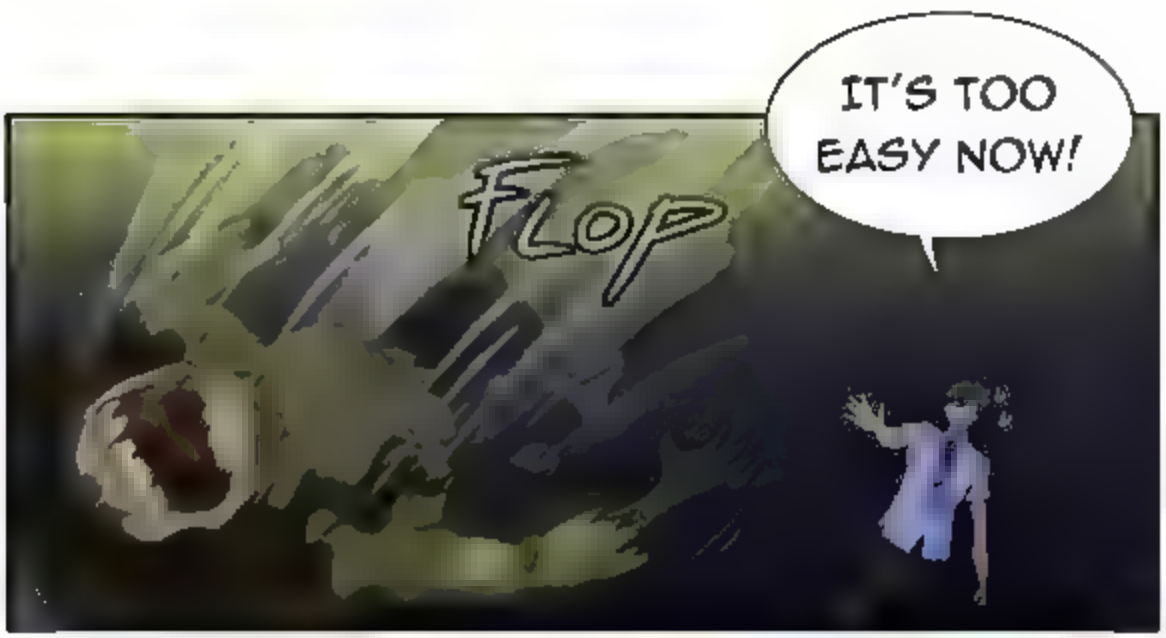
I CAN THROW A ZOMBIE ON THE GROUND WITH MY MANA POWER ATTACK!
DAMAGE IS...


HP
TREMBLE
TREMBLE

MP
SHH
I CAN KILL HER WITH 10 MANA POWER ATTACKS. MP IS ENOUGH.

TREMBLE


MANA POWER ATTACK.
BOOM


IT'S TOO EASY NOW!
FLOP

GRIN

AHAHA
THIS CAN BE A GOOD EXPERIENCE!

TAP
SMASH

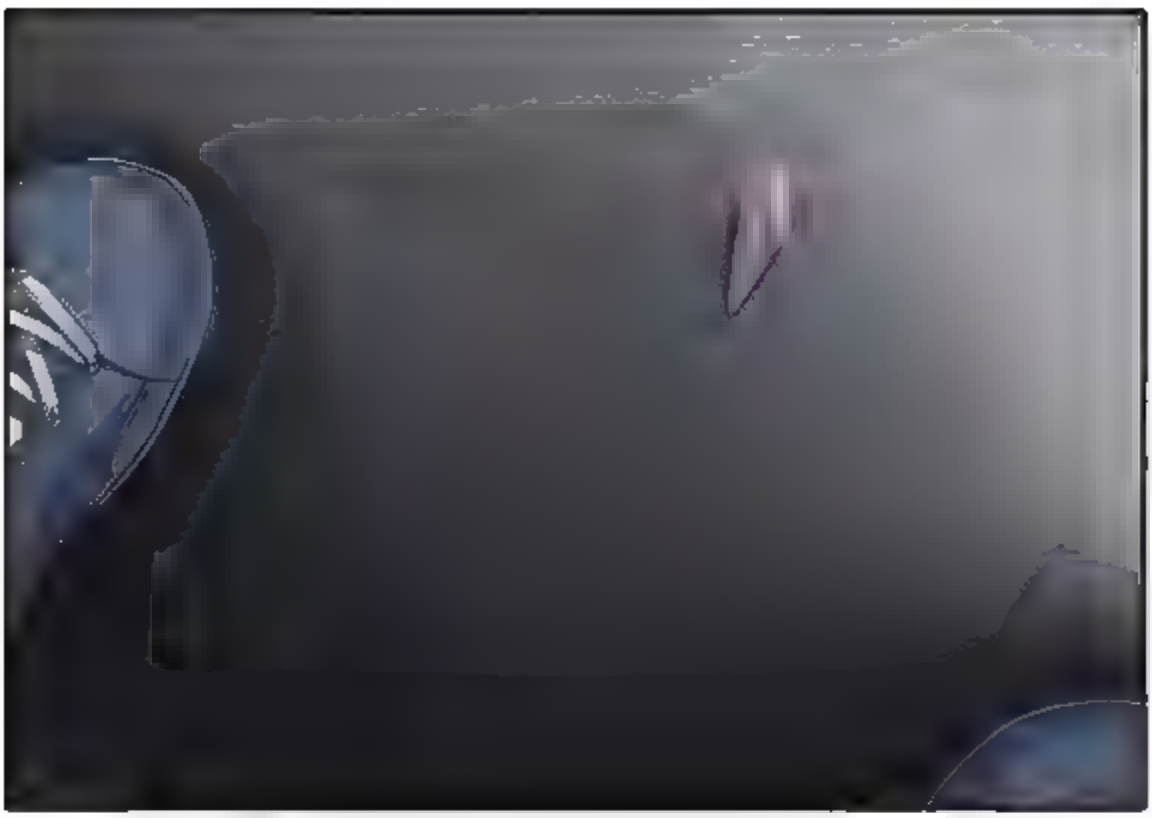
POW
POW

SHHH

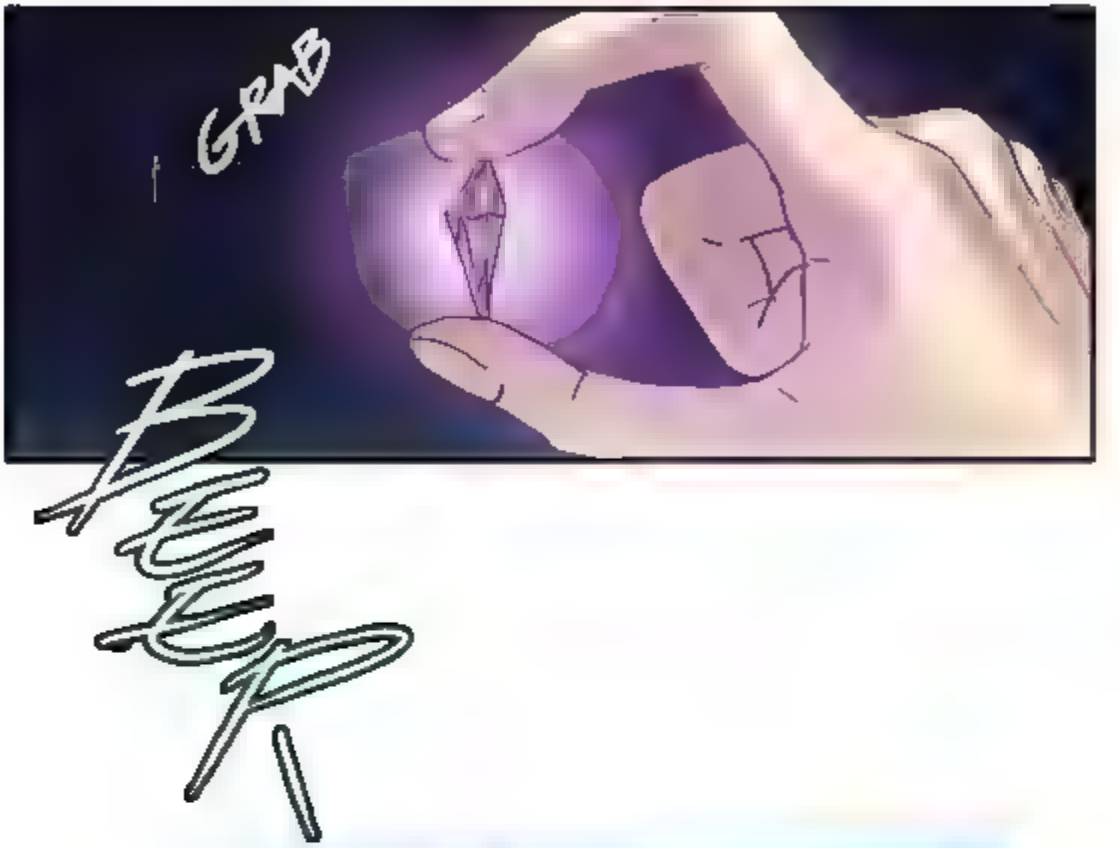
NOW I KNOW HOW TO HUNT.

THROW A ZOMBIE ONTO THE GROUND WITH MP ATTACK AND HIT IT BEFORE IT STANDS UP.

EH?



NO WAY...
IS THIS
AN ITEM?
WHEN YOU
HUNT A MONSTER
IN A GAME, IT DROPS
AN ITEM.
BUT
IS THAT POSSIBLE
IN REALITY?


GRAB
BEEP!
ITEM 'SPIRIT STONE'
IS ACQUIRED.

HUH!?
SPIRIT
STONE?

SPIRIT STONE...

ITH THIS SKILL,
OU CAN TREAT YOURSELF OR OTHERS.

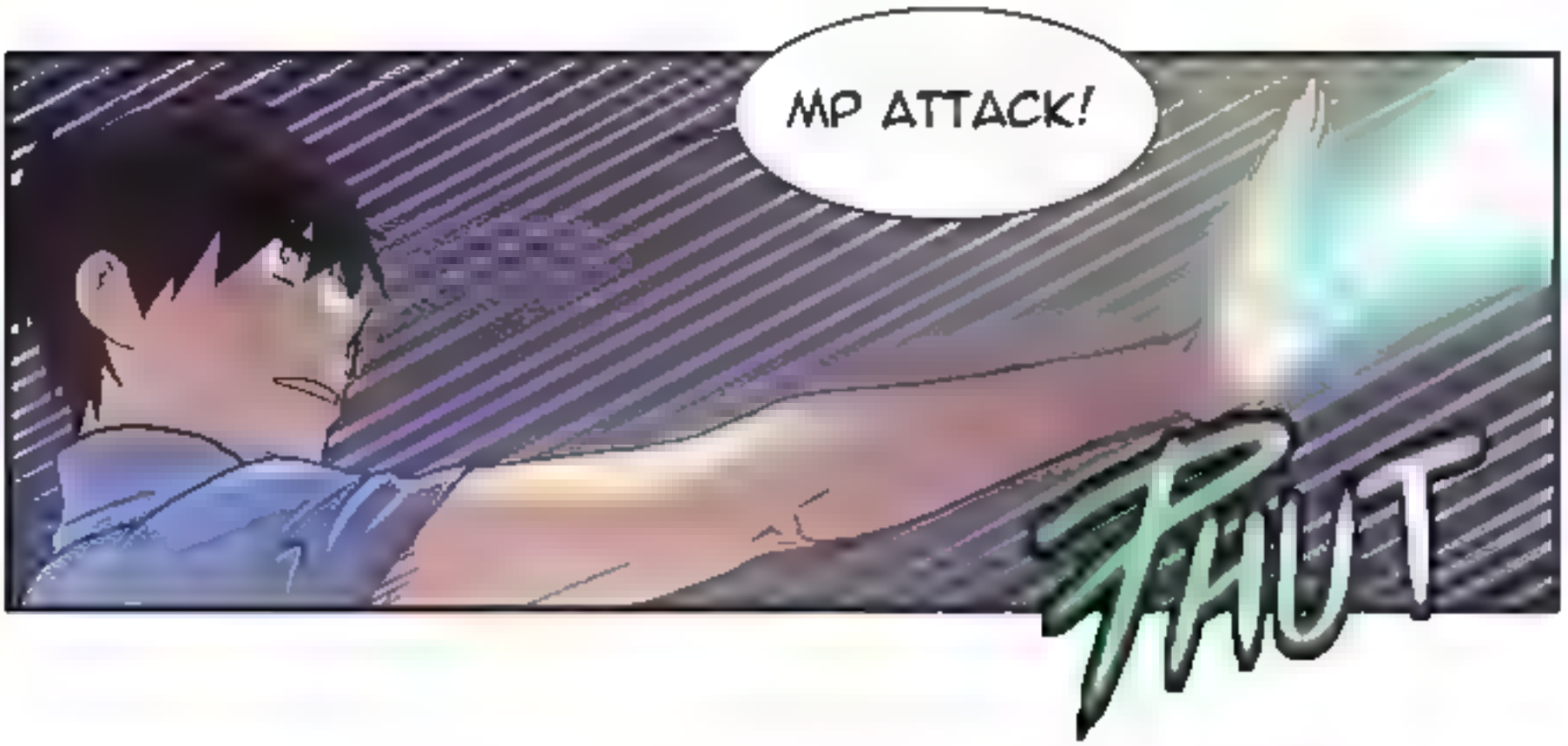
WITH SPIRIT STONE 50 HP AND 50 MP RECOVERED.
ABNORMAL CONDITION AND DISEASE RECOVERED.
WITHOUT SPIRIT STONE: 50 HP RECOVERED.
ABNORMAL CONDITION AND DISEASE RECOVERED

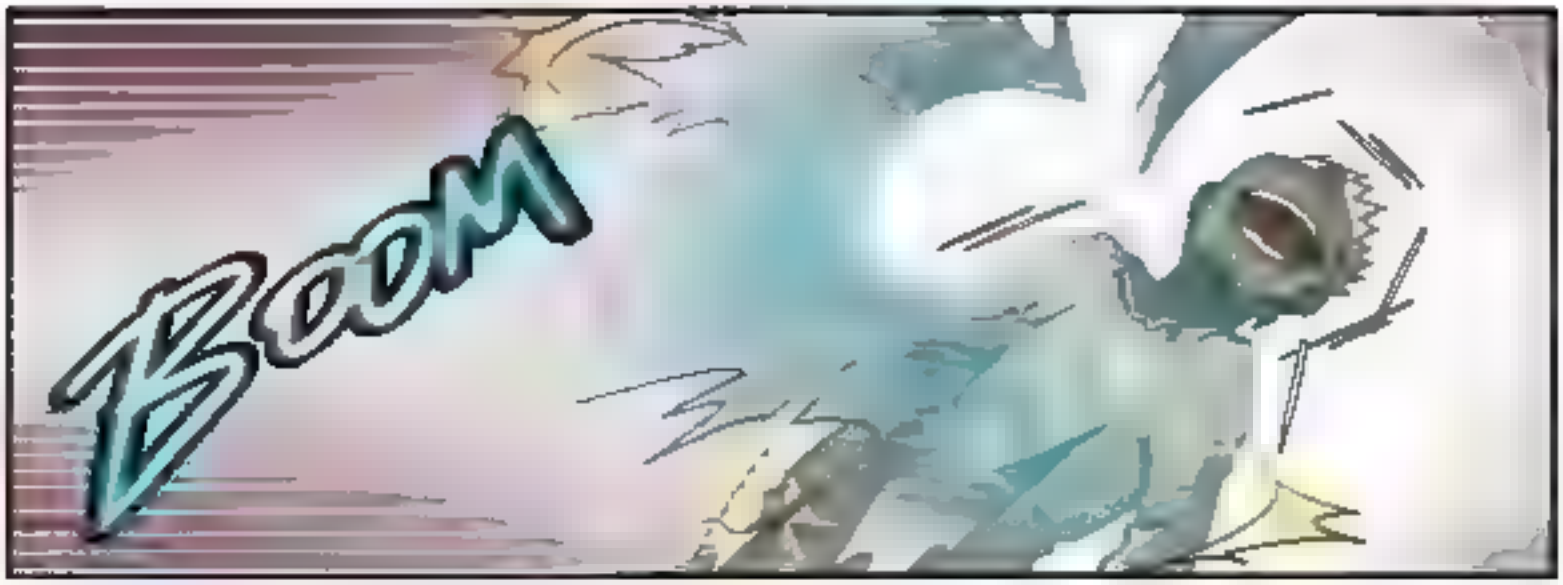
AN ITEM FOR YEON HON PRINCIPLE?

IT'S RECOVERED FROM ZOMBIES?

TAP
TAP

LET'S GET A LEVEL UP FIRST.
PHAT


MP ATTACK!
FHUT


Boom

TAP

SLAM
SLAM

SHHH

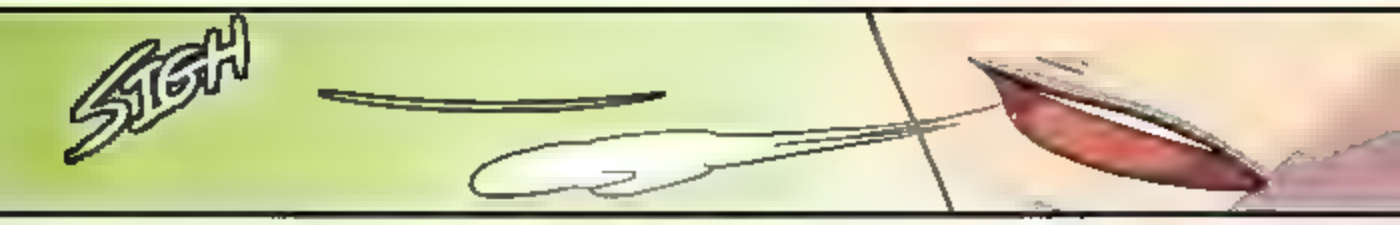
BEEP
1 LEVEL UP.
GREN

THUT

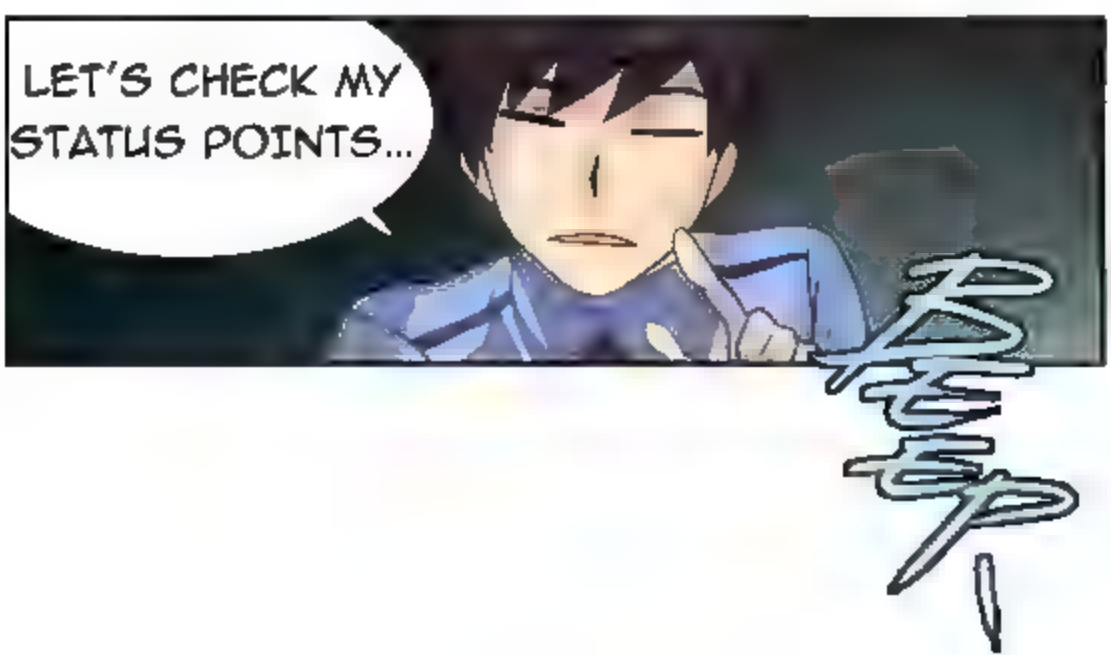
BOOM

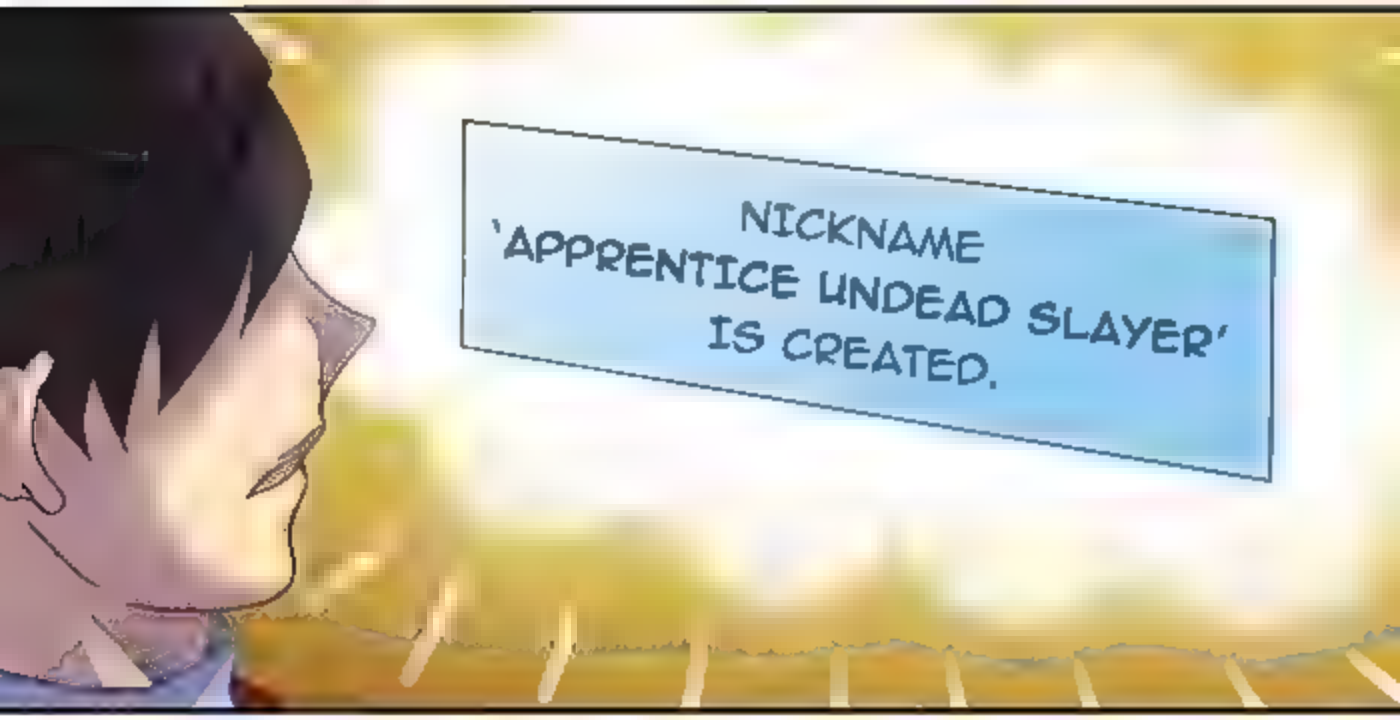
[redacted]

1 LEVEL UP.


SIGH

FINISHED.
SHUU


LET'S CHECK MY STATUS POINTS...
BEEP!

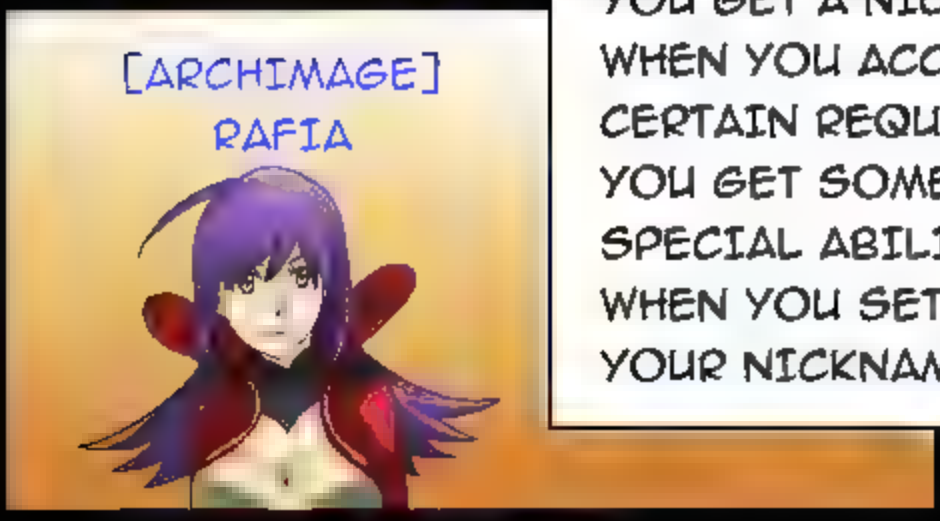

NICKNAME
'APPRENTICE UNDEAD SLAYER'
IS CREATED.

WHAT'S THIS?

THE
GAMER

NICKNAME.
IT'S A TITLE
SYSTEM.

IN A TITLE SYSTEM,
YOU GET A NICKNAME
WHEN YOU ACCOMPLISH
CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS.
YOU GET SOME
SPECIAL ABILITIES
WHEN YOU SET
YOUR NICKNAME.



FOR EXAMPLE, YOU'LL GET
THE NICKNAME 'BUG KILLER'
WHEN YOU KILL 100 BUGS.

BUT I DIDN'T
EXPECT A TITLE SYSTEM
IN REALITY...

[APPRENTICE UNDEAD SLAYER]

- YOU'LL GET THIS TITLE WHEN YOU SLAY 50 ZOMBIES.
- YOU ARE TALENTED IN SLAYING THE UNDEAD!
- LET'S BE AN UNDEAD SLAYER AND ERADICATE THE UNDEAD!

WHEN YOU ATTACK THE UNDEAD:
ATTACK POWER INCREASES BY 30%.
DEFENSE POWER INCREASES BY 30%.
ALL STATUS INCREASE BY 5.

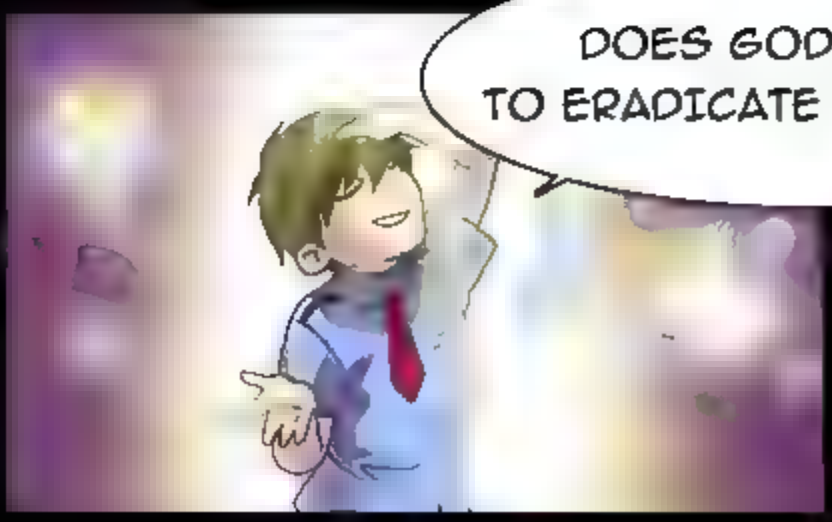
WHO IS MAKING THESE PHRASES?

IS GAIA MAKING IT?

ANYWAY... CHECK THIS OUT.

BOTH ATTACK AND DEFENSE POWER INCREASE BY 30% AND ALL STATS INCREASE BY 5...

DOES GOD WANT ME TO ERADICATE THE UNDEAD?



LET'S INSTALL IT.

PANG

ME: JIHA APPRENTICE UNDEAD

UPATION: 1

LEVEL:

CLICK

APPRENTICE UNDEAD SLAYER

<THE GAMER>

LV 9 JIHAN HAN

APPRENTICE UNDEAD

<THE GAMER>

LV 9 JIHAN HAN

SWOOSH

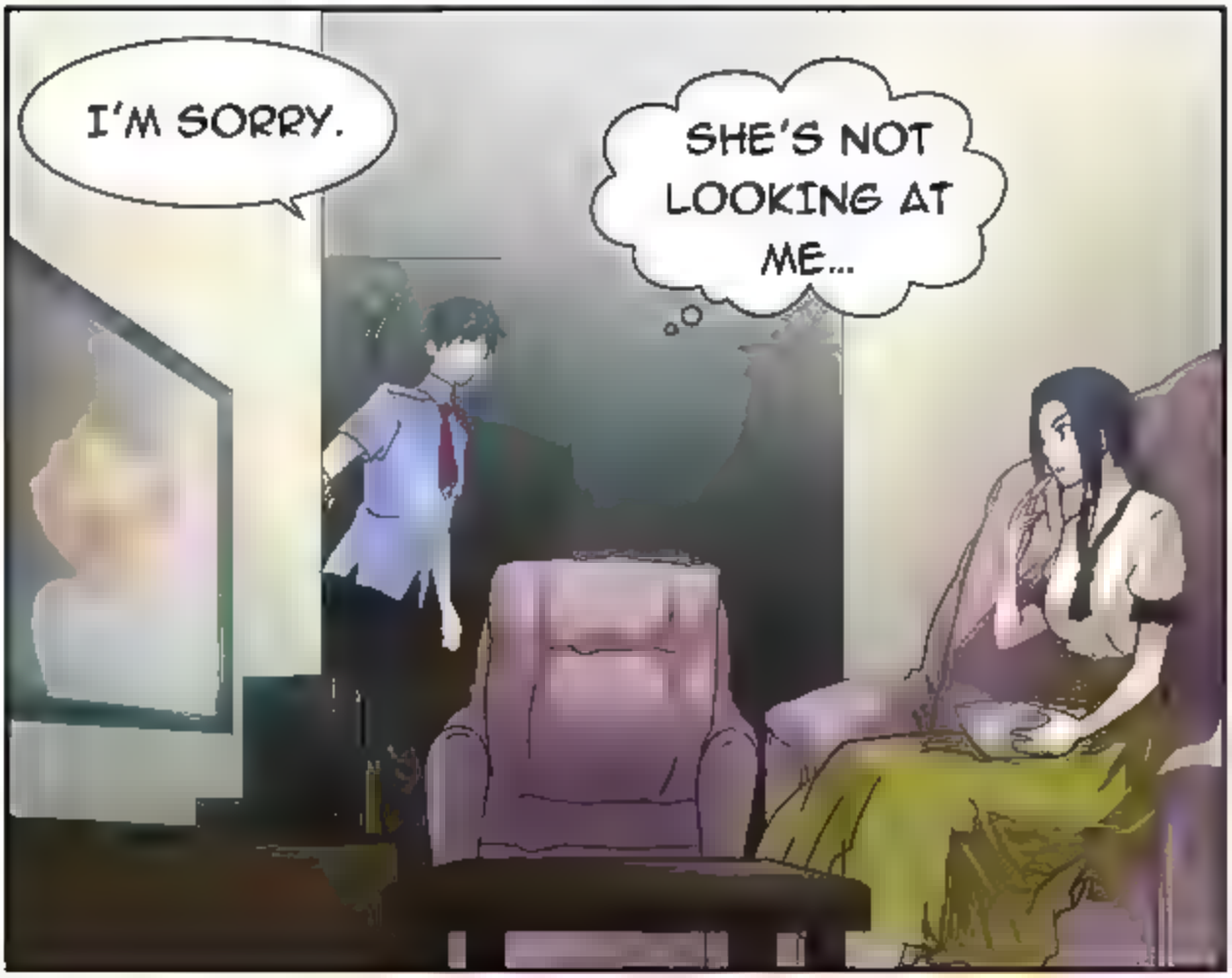
SHH
I CAN FEEL THE POWER SURROUNDING ME.

SIGH

NO MORE ZOMBIES... LET'S GO HOME.

ESCAPE FROM INSTANT DUNGEON!
I'M HOME.
WHAT A LONG DAY... IT FELT LIKE AN ETERNITY.
TAP

YOU'RE LATE.


I'M SORRY.
SHE'S NOT LOOKING AT ME...

HOW IS SEONIL?
CRUNCH

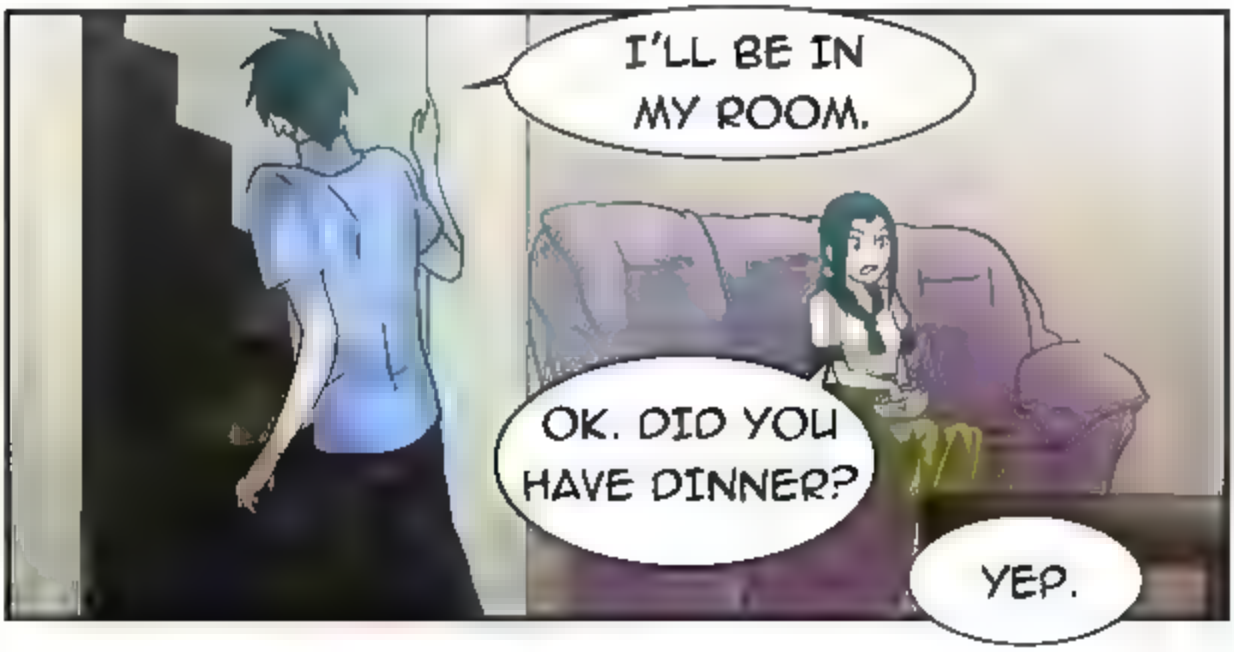
HE'S OKAY. HE'LL COME BACK TO SCHOOL SOON.

QUESTION MARKS ABOVE HER HEAD.

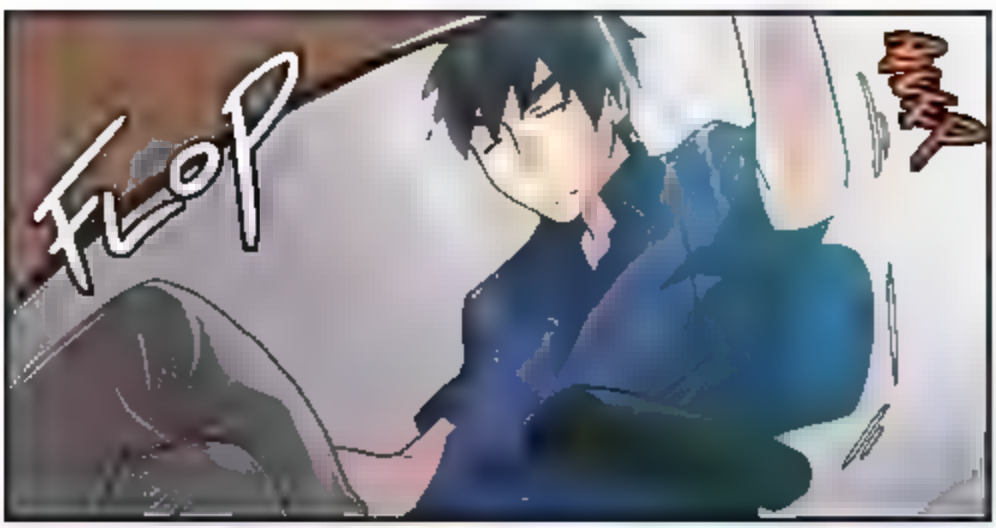
MY ABILITY CAN'T TELL A FALSEHOOD.

THEN,
IS MOM SPECIAL
OR SOMETHING?

WHAT IF
THERE'S A REASON
FOR THOSE
QUESTION MARKS?

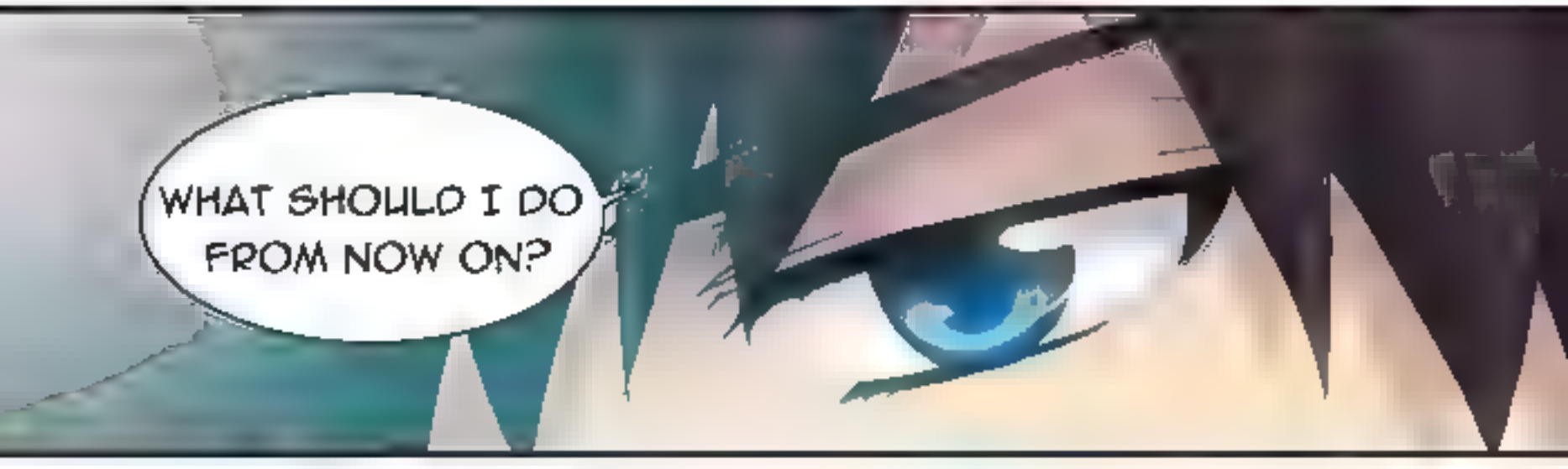

I'LL BE IN MY ROOM.
OK. DID YOU HAVE DINNER?
YEP.

FLICK

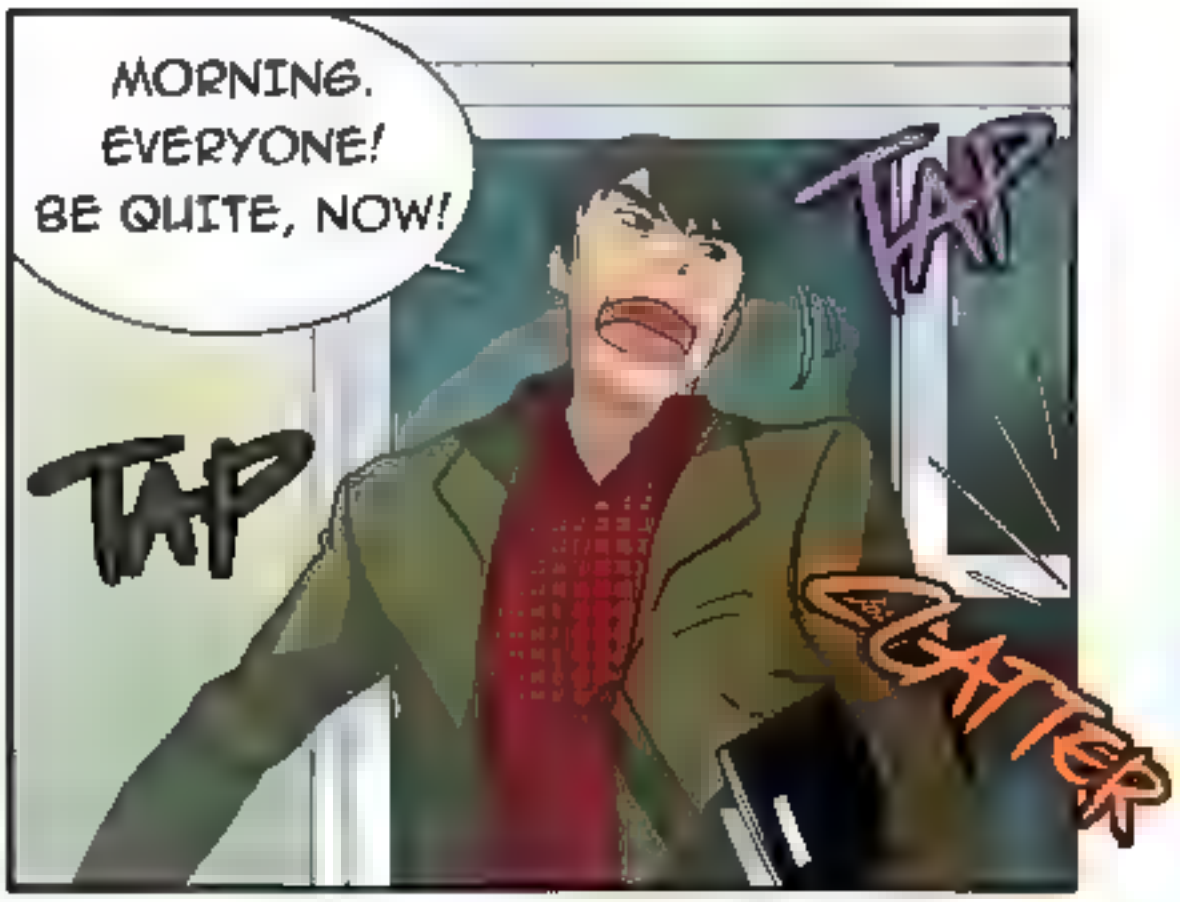

FLOP

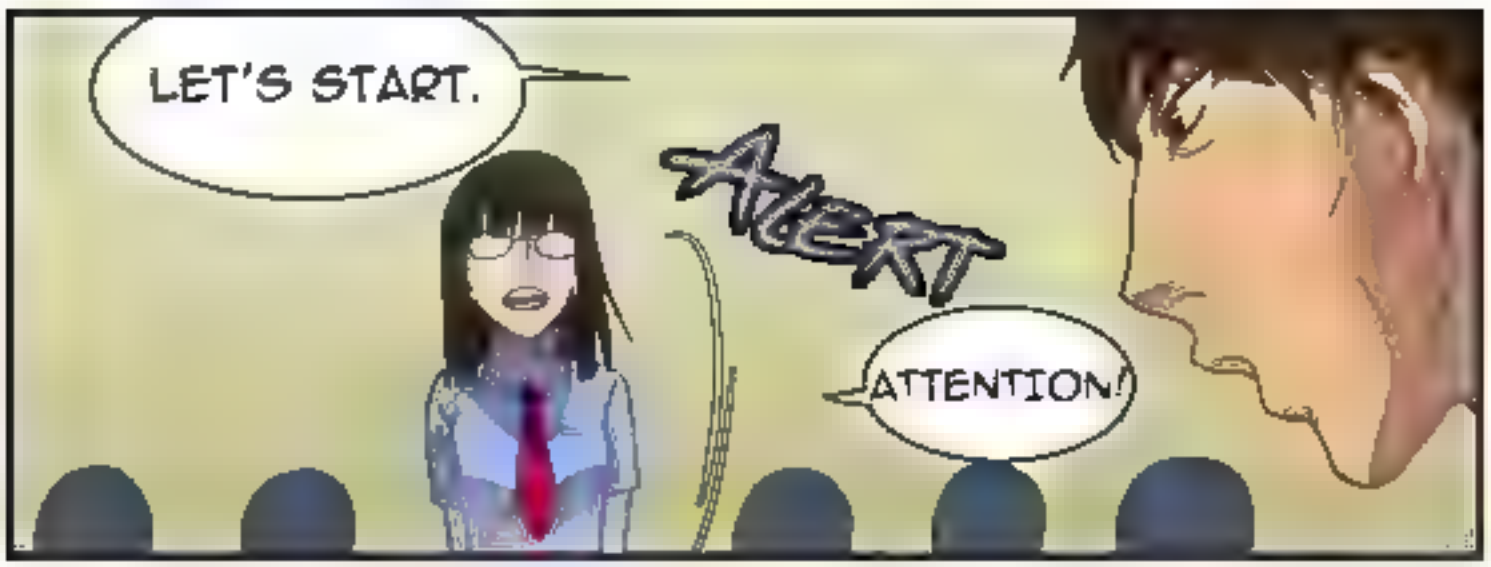
OH, MY!
DID I JUST
TURN ON THE
COMPUTER
OUT OF HABIT!?

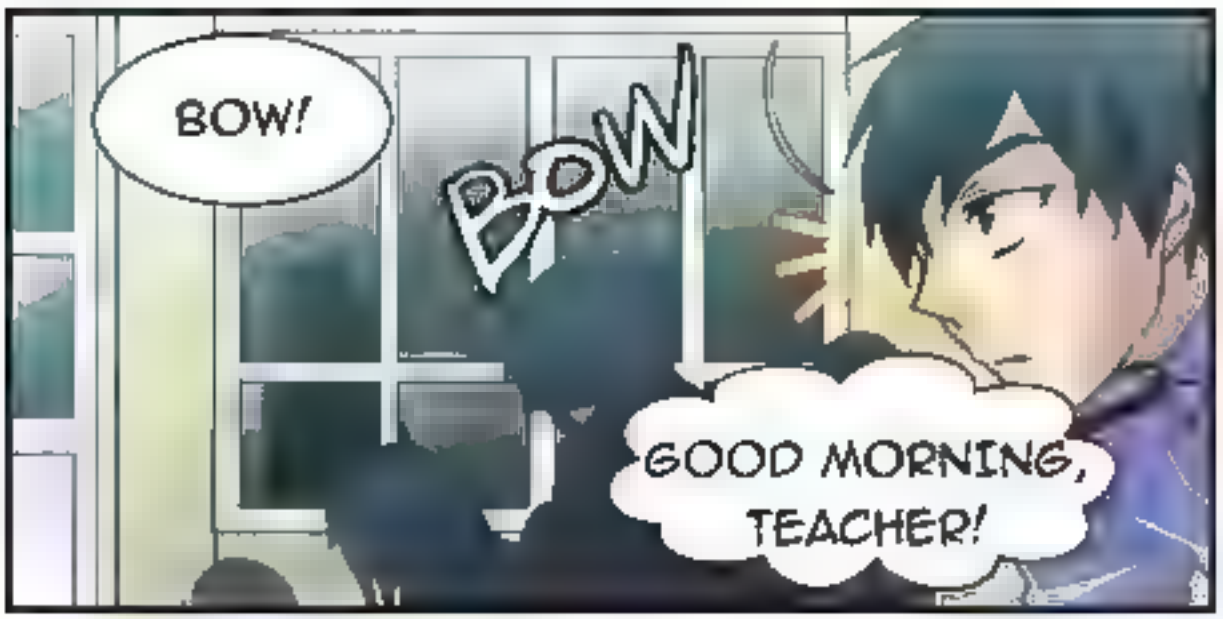
.....


WHAT SHOULD I DO FROM NOW ON?

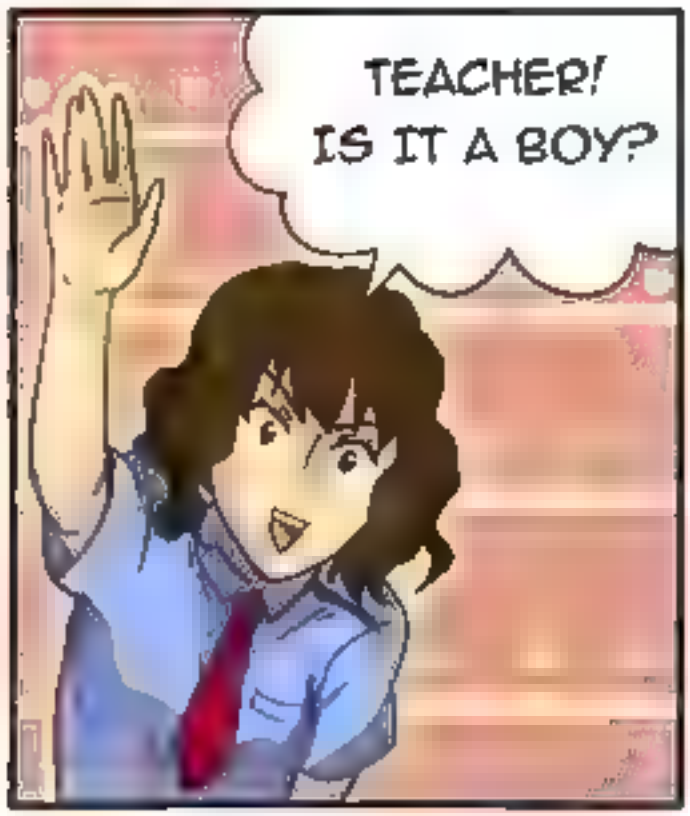
BREEN

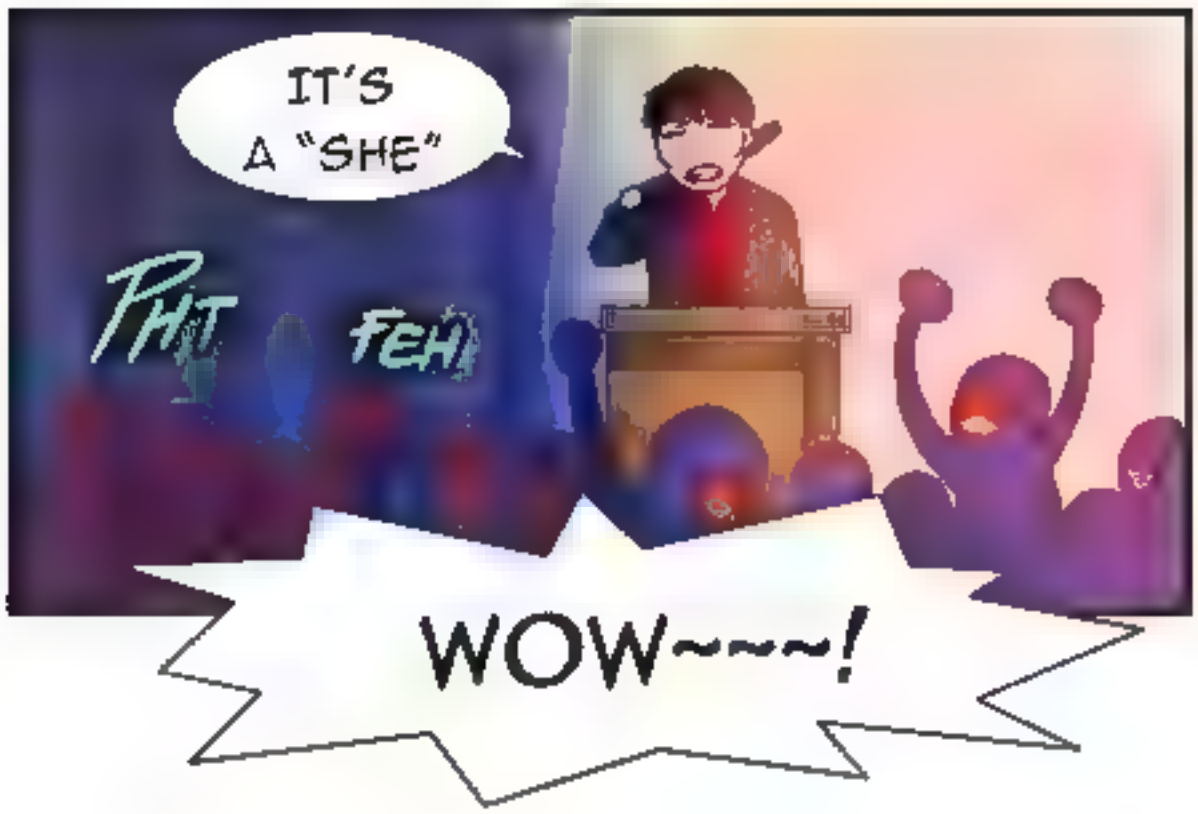

MORNING. EVERYONE! BE QUITE, NOW!
TAP
TAP
CLATTER


LET'S START.
ALERT
ATTENTION!


BOW!
BOW
GOOD MORNING, TEACHER!

WE HAVE A NEW TRANSFER STUDENT TODAY
I EXPECT ALL OF YOU TO BE KIND AND NICE. OKAY?


TEACHER! IS IT A BOY?


IT'S A "SHE"
PHT
FEH
WOW~~~~!

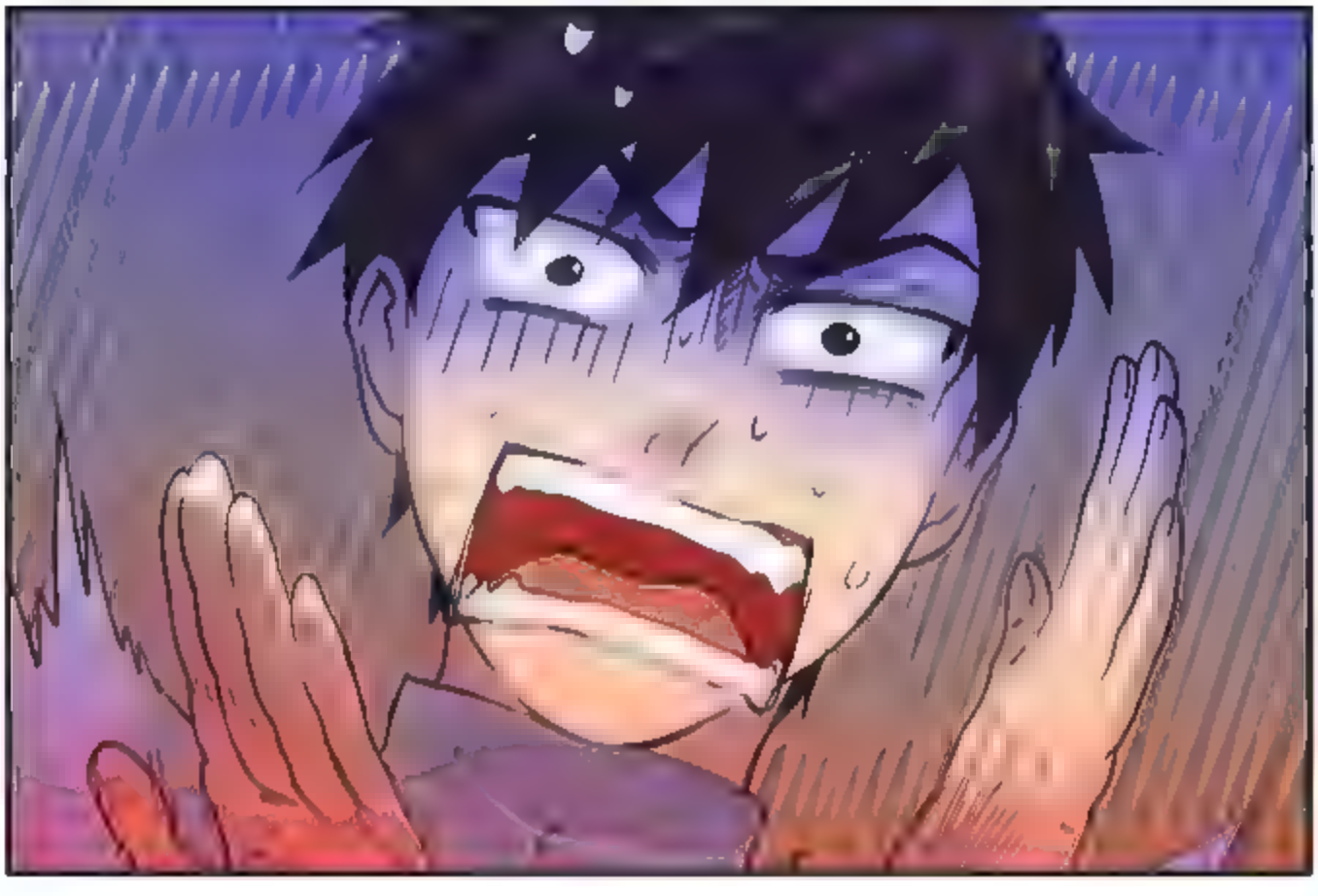
ONLY THE BOYS ARE HAPPY...
HE LIKES IT, TOO
COME IN.

TAP

HA?

TAP

SLEEK



SHIYEON KWON!!

THE GAMER

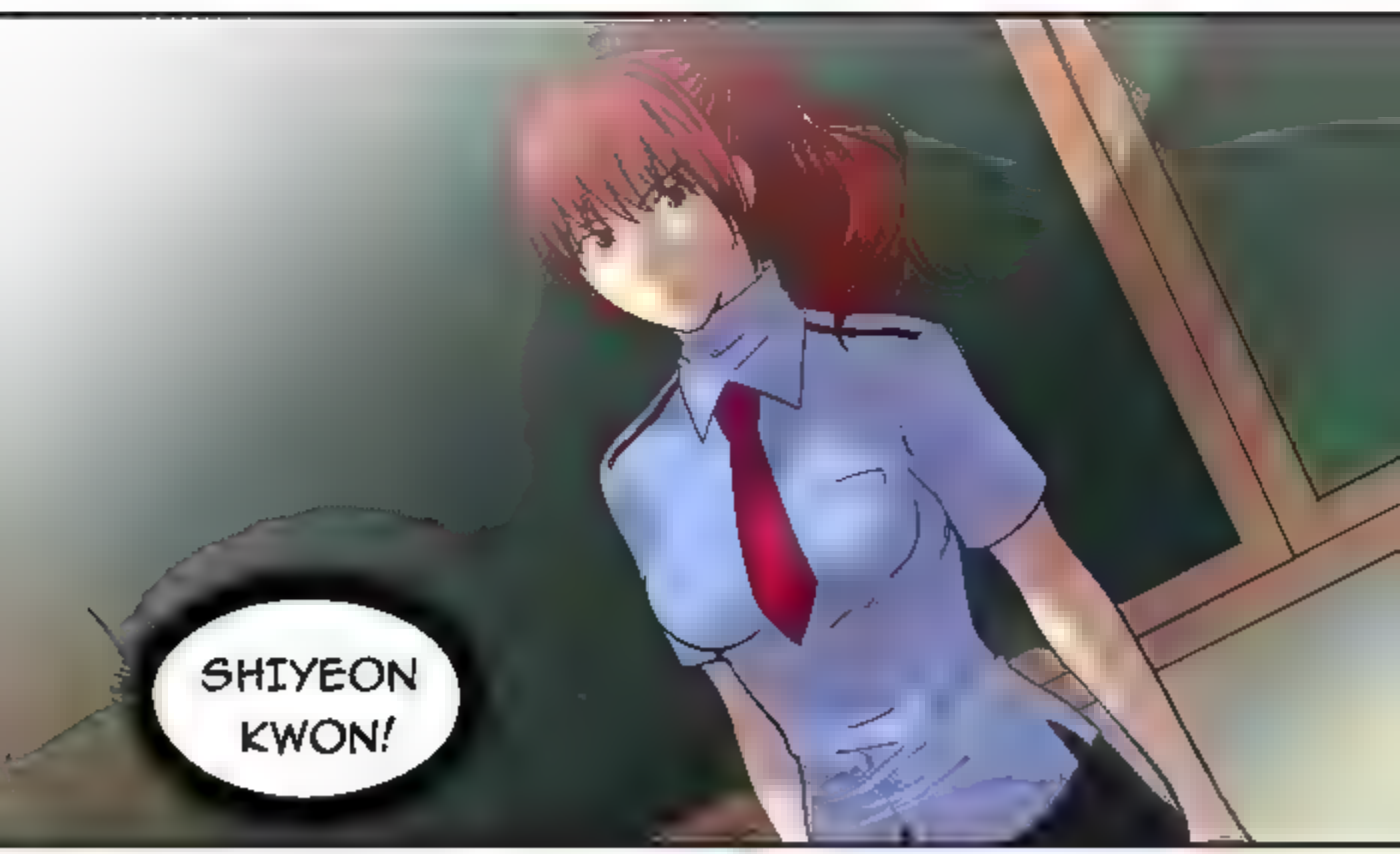
STORY BY SANGYOUNG SEONG
ILLUST BY SANG-A

LINE Webtoon

THE GAMER

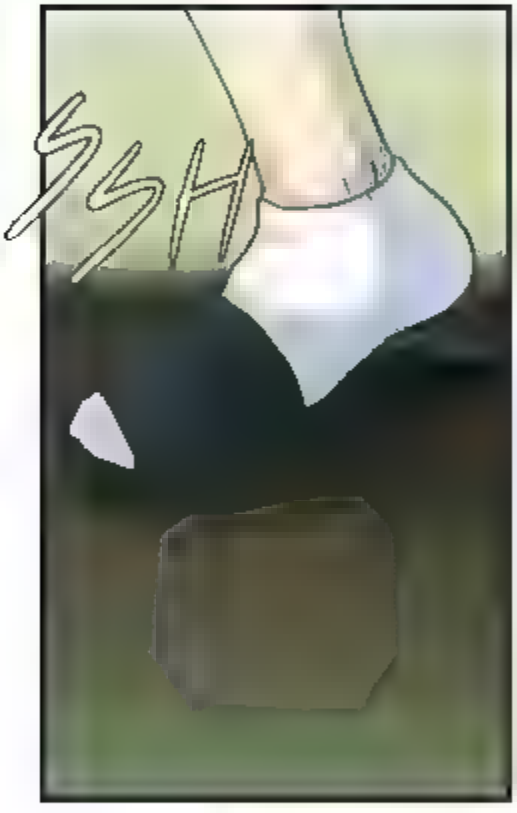
STORY BY SANGYOUNG SEONG

ILLUST BY SANG-A

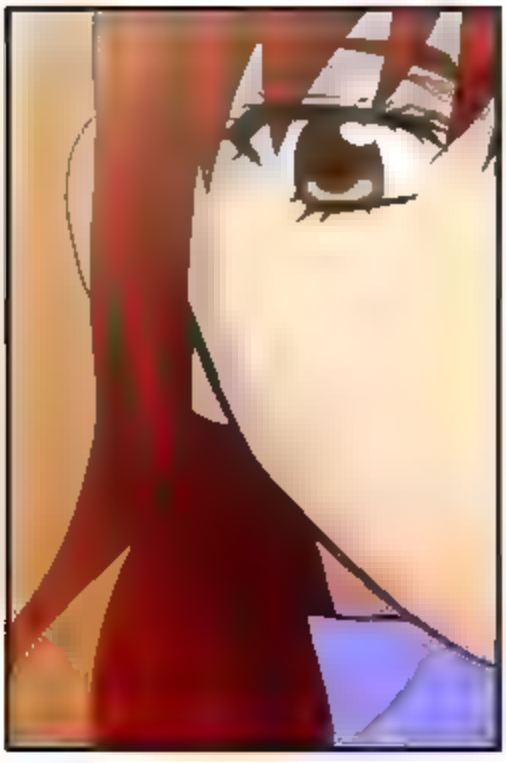


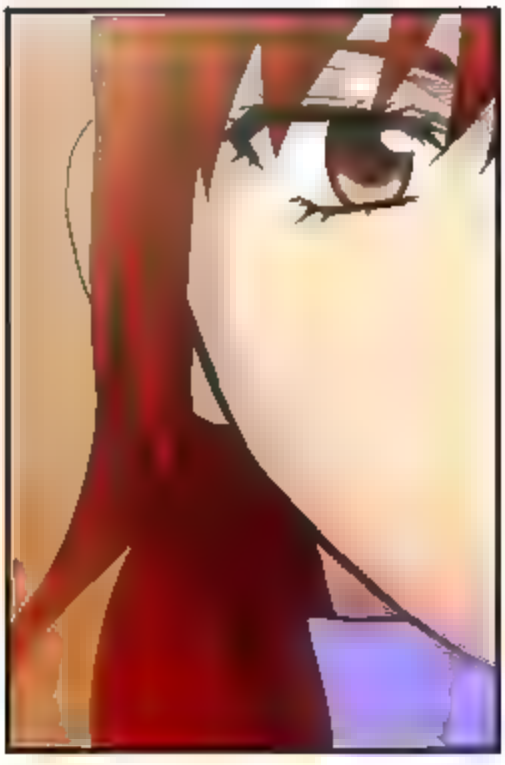
WHAT IS SHE DOING HERE?
WELL, INTRODUCE YOURSELF.
MY NAME IS SHIYEON KWON AND I WAS TRANSFERRED HERE FOR FAMILY REASONS.
Bow
NICE TO MEET YOU.

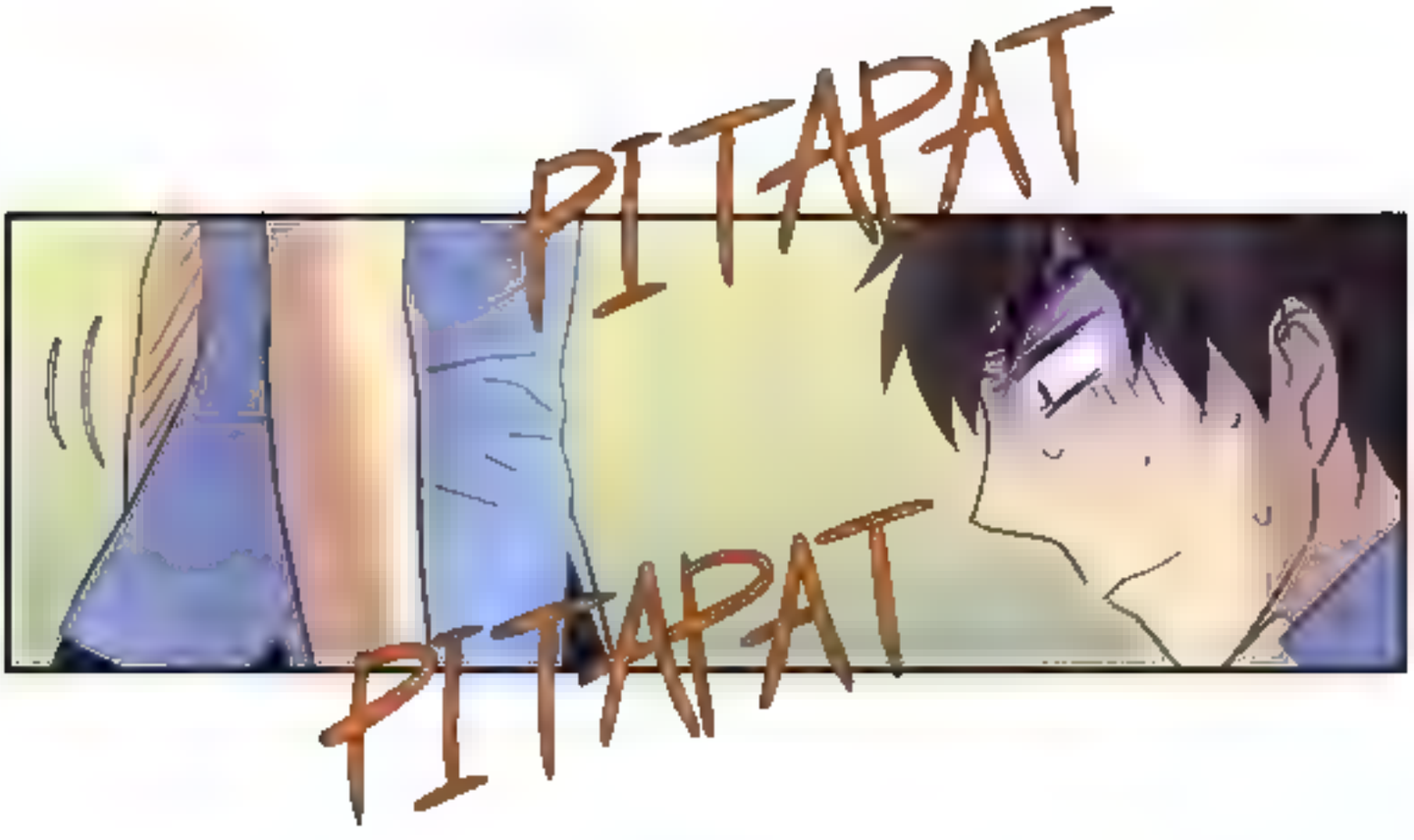
GO SIT IN THE BACK ROW.


SSH

PITAPAT
PITAPAT






PITAPAT
PITAPAT

HUH?
SSH

RATTLE

SHE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE SURPRISED TO SEE ME.

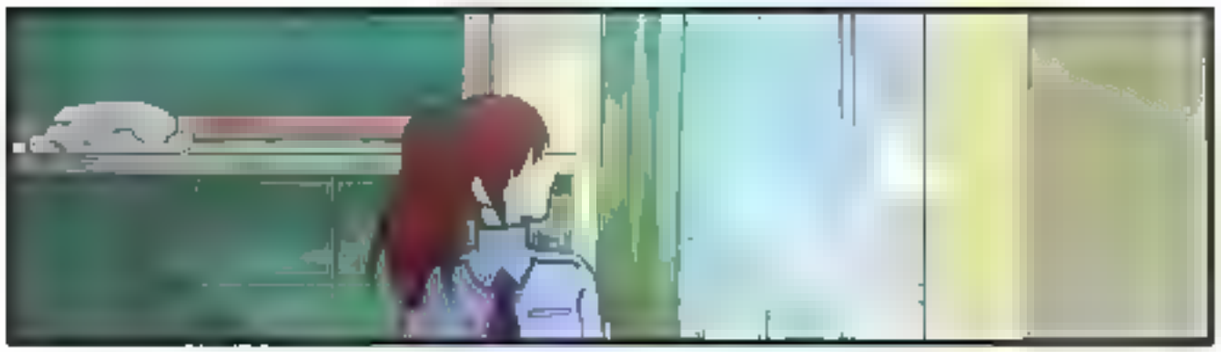
DING

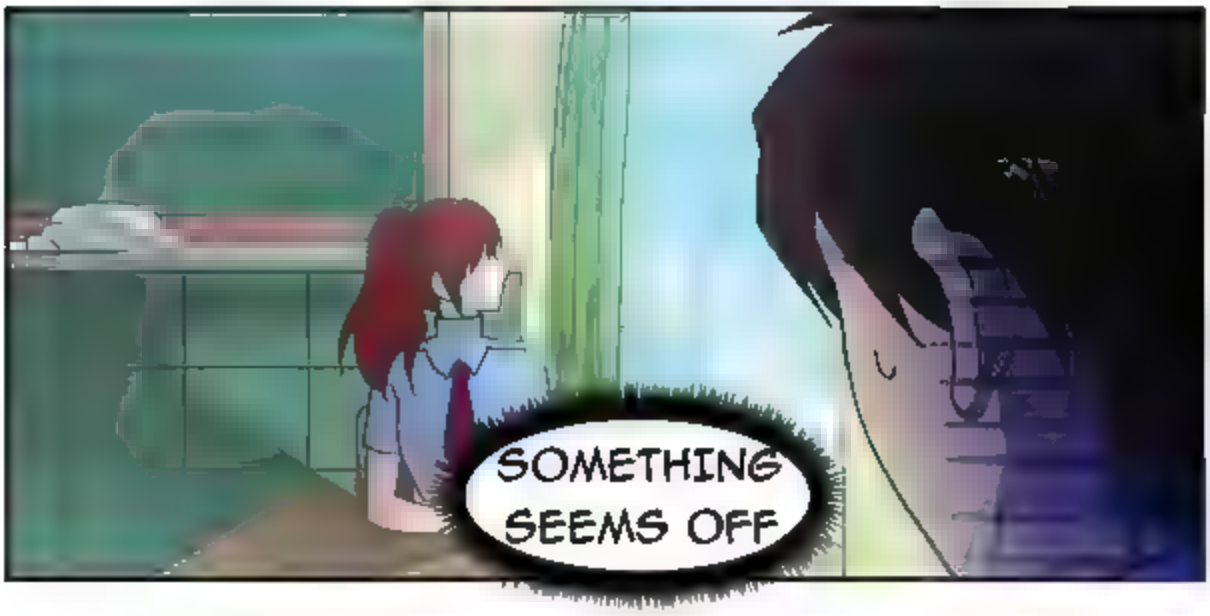
-DING

SHE DIDN'T RECOGNIZE ME, PERHAPS?

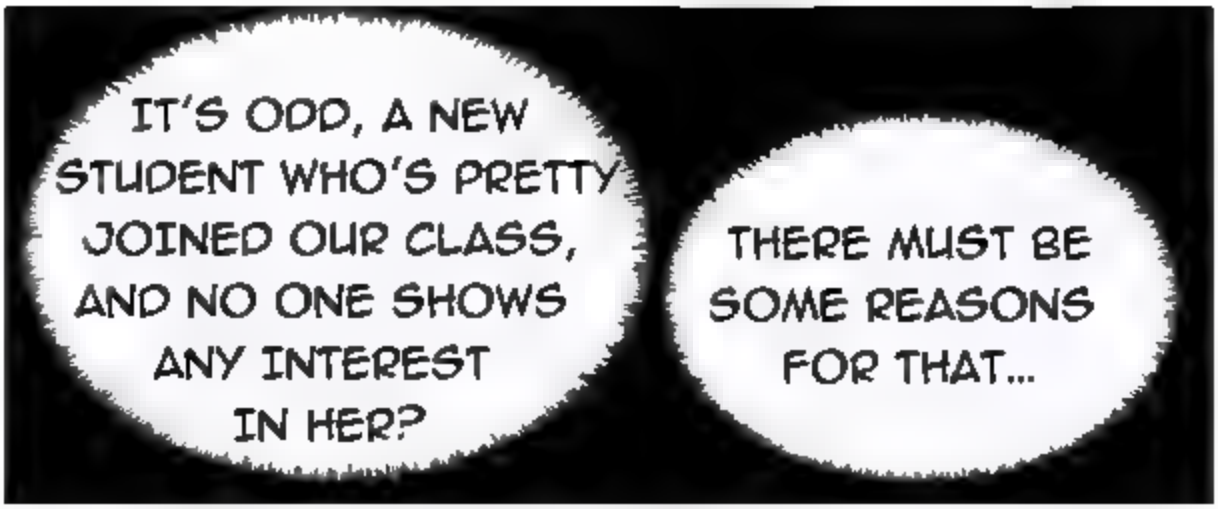
DING

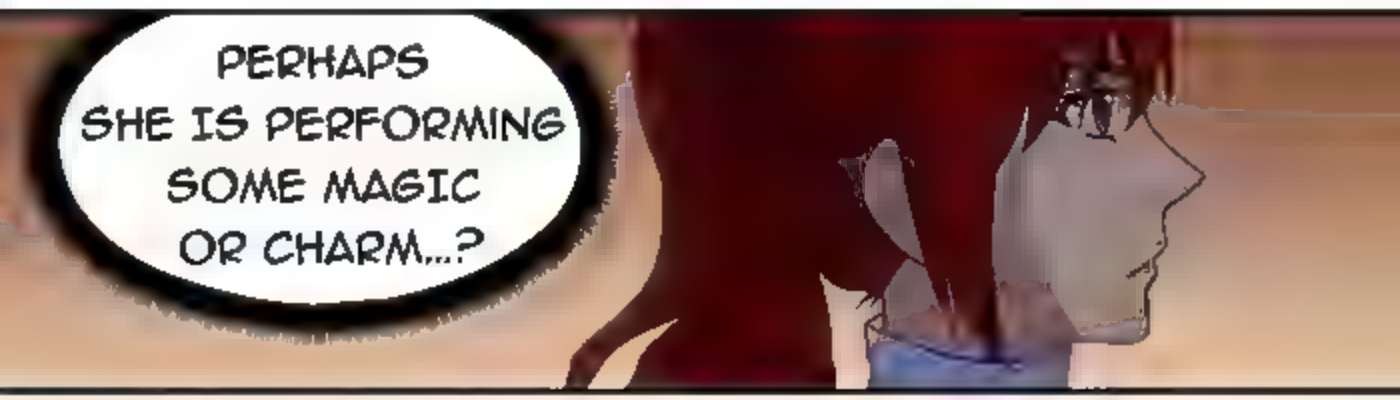
—DING




SOMETHING SEEMS OFF

WELL, I HAVE A REASON, BUT...
WHY ISN'T ANYONE SHOWING INTEREST IN HER?

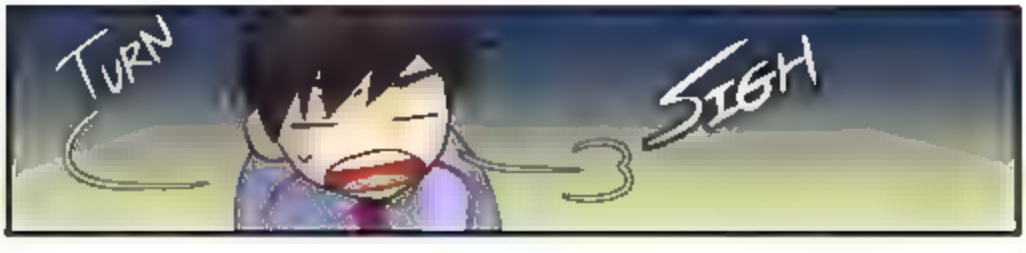

IT'S ODD, A NEW STUDENT WHO'S PRETTY JOINED OUR CLASS, AND NO ONE SHOWS ANY INTEREST IN HER?
THERE MUST BE SOME REASONS FOR THAT...


PERHAPS SHE IS PERFORMING SOME MAGIC OR CHARM...?

.....

BUT WHY IS SHE IGNORING ME?

THE BREAK AFTER 1ST PERIOD,
AND THE ONE AFTER THAT... SHE KEEPS IGNORING ME...
FLUTTER FLUTTER
FLUTTER FLUTTER
FLUTTER
DID SHE FORGET WHO I AM?



IF I THINK ABOUT IT, SHE BELONGS TO THE ABYSS AFTER ALL.

SO I HAVE TO THINK OF HER AS A DANGEROUS CREATURE.

IF SHE FORGOT ABOUT ME, IT MIGHT BE A GOOD THING.

DING DONG DING DONG

GASP!

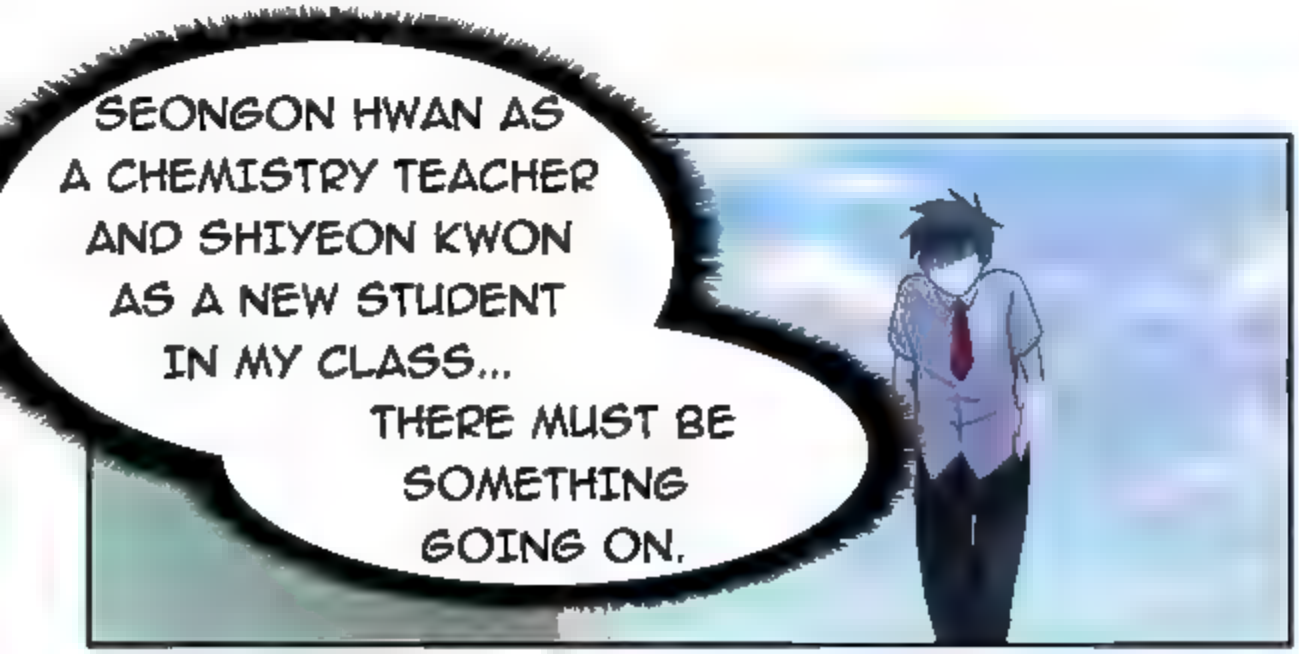
EVERYONE, SILENCE.
THUD
CLANG

AS YOU KNOW YOUR CHEMISTRY TEACHER IS IN THE HOSPITAL DUE TO AN ACCIDENT.
I'LL BE TEACHING CHEMISTRY FROM NOW ON. MY NAME IS SEONGON HWAN.
OKAY, OPEN YOUR TEXTBOOKS.

POINTING OUT HIS STRANGE OUTFIT!

THE GAMER

STORY BY SANGYOUNG SEONG
ILLUST BY SANG-A



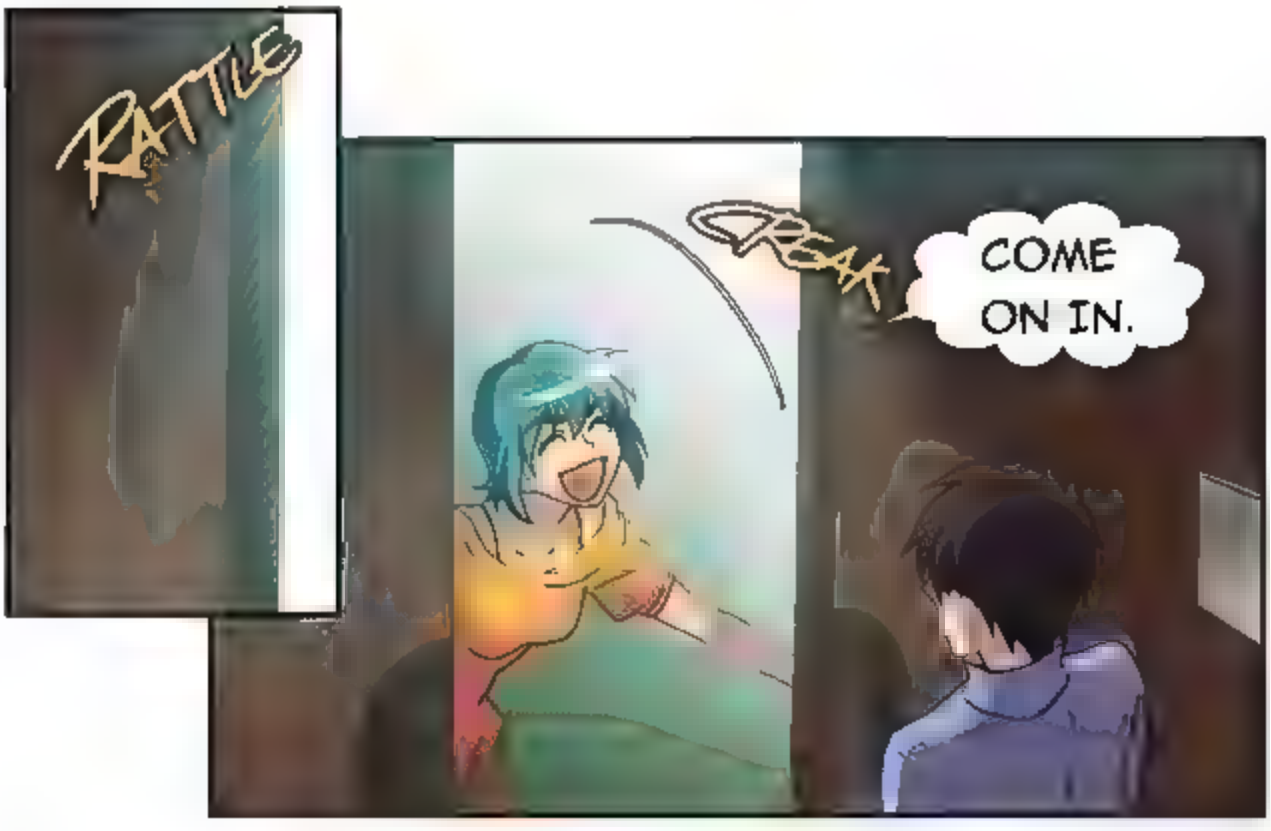
WHEN MR. HWAN CAME INTO THE CLASSROOM, SHIYEON LOOKED AS IF SHE'D BURST INTO FLAMES.

MAYBE SHE REALLY DID TRANSFER FOR FAMILY REASONS, BUT...
TAP
WHAT THE HELL IS UP WITH MR. HWAN?
ISN'T IT RATHER SHADY THAT HE EVEN HAS A PROPER JOB?

BESIDES, HOW COME NOBODY CARES ABOUT THAT RIDICULOUS OUTFIT?!

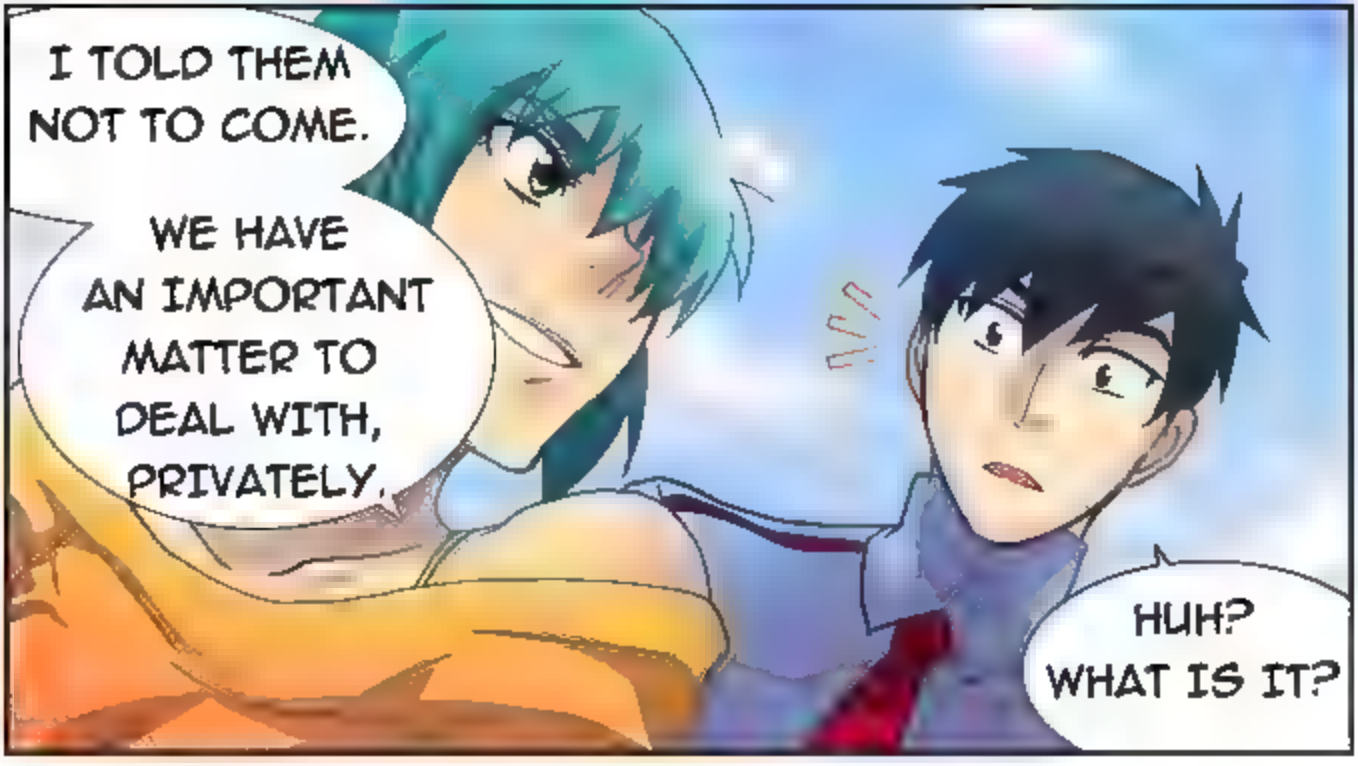
DING DONG
I'M SO CONFUSED.

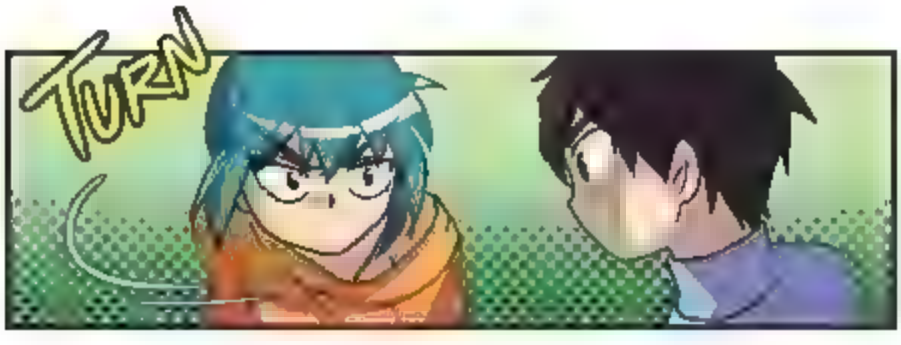
WHO'S THERE?
SEYOUNG, IT'S ME, JIHAN.

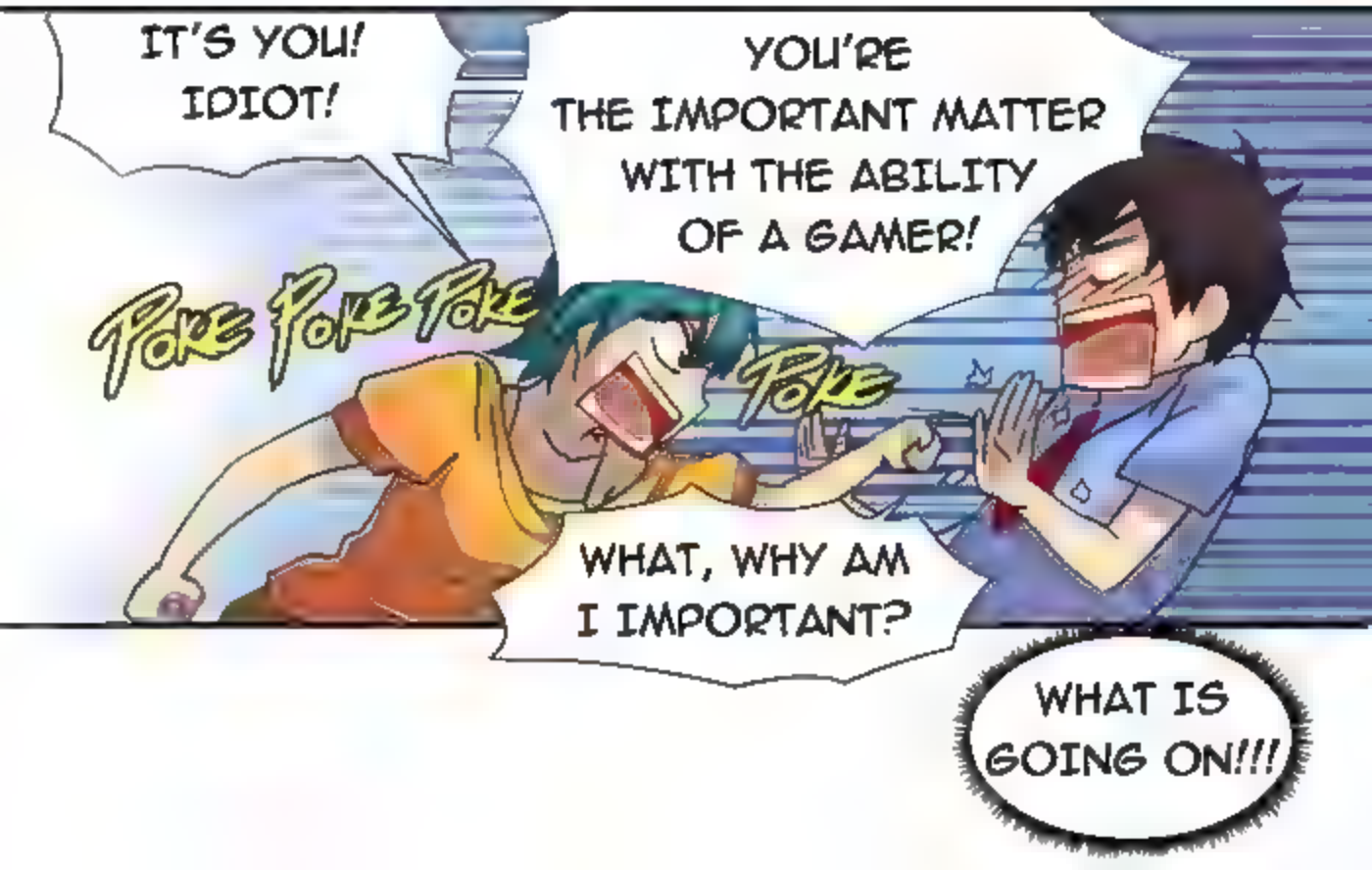

RATTLE
CREAK
COME ON IN.

HUH?

AREN'T THE STUDENTS COMING TODAY? THERE'S NO ONE HERE.


I TOLD THEM NOT TO COME.
WE HAVE AN IMPORTANT MATTER TO DEAL WITH, PRIVATELY.
HUH? WHAT IS IT?


TURN

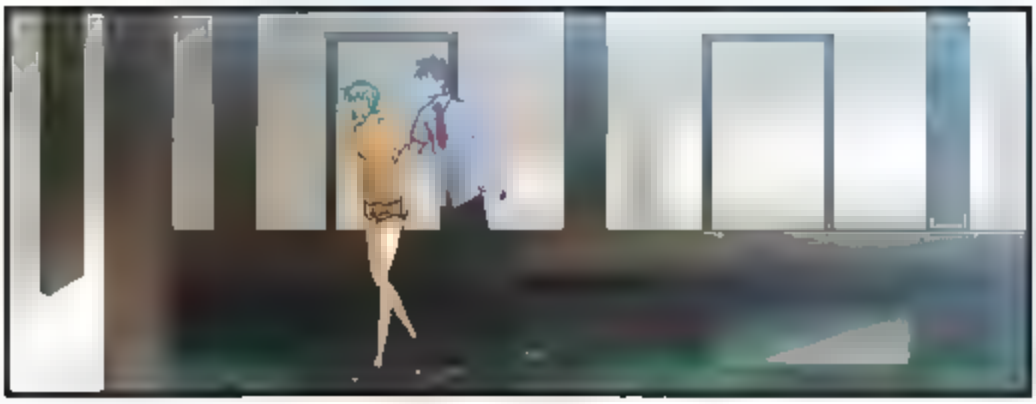

IT'S YOU! IDIOT!
YOU'RE THE IMPORTANT MATTER WITH THE ABILITY OF A GAMER!
POKE POKE POKE
POKE
WHAT, WHY AM I IMPORTANT?
WHAT IS GOING ON!!!

SSH
DID YOU FORGET THAT YOU CURED SEONIL AS IF HE NEVER GOT INJURED?

THAT'S NOT SOMETHING EVERYONE CAN DO.
WELL...

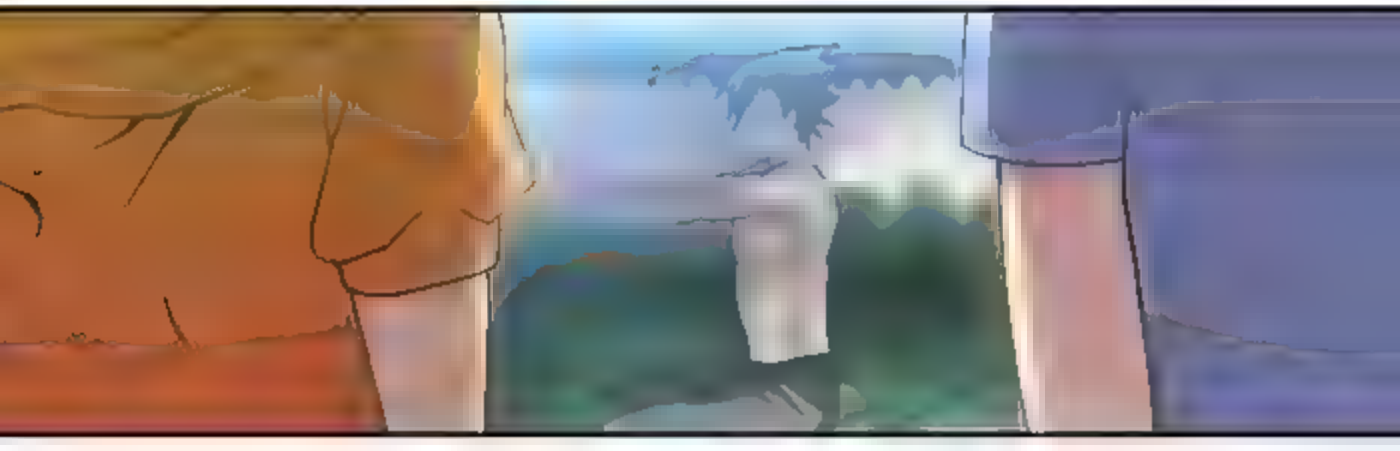
WAS THAT A HARD THING TO DO?
I GUESS HEALERS MUST BE RARE IN THE ABYSS.
HEALERS ARE NOBLES, INDEED!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
JUST COME INSIDE, FIRST.

THE
GAMER



KATTLE

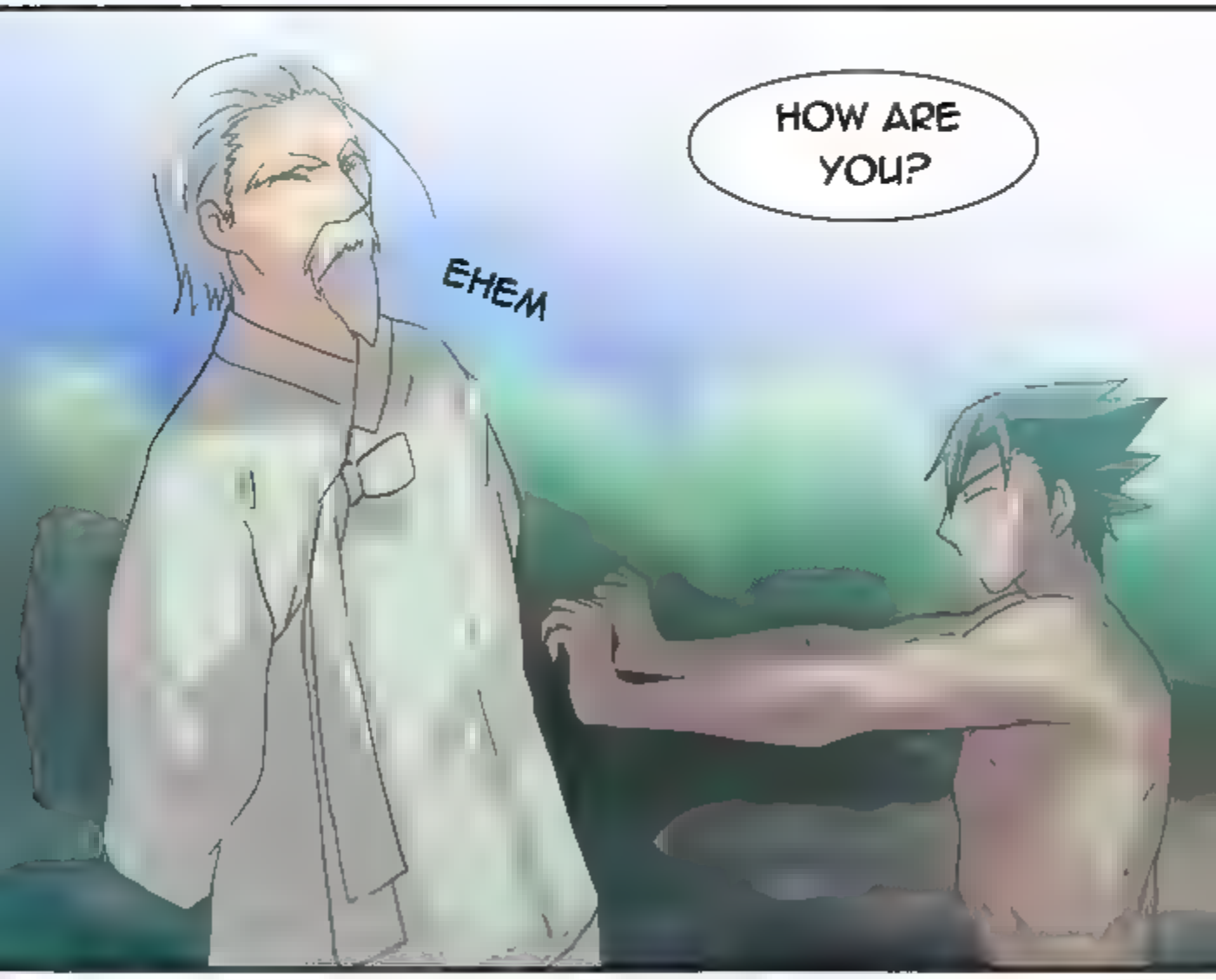
KEAK



WHAT IS THAT THING THAT LOOKS LIKE MIST...

IS THAT CHI?

YOU'RE HERE.
AH...


HOW ARE YOU?
EHEM

TUT TUT. YOU'VE BEEN PLAYING THAT WICKED GAME SINCE YOU WERE LITTLE...

TURN

OH, COME ON...

IT'S WEIRDER NOT TO PLAY COMPUTER GAMES THESE DAYS.

IS SEONIL'S GRANDFATHE SEONOH SHIN, THE HEAD OF THIS HOUSEHOLD.

HE BEGAN TO DISLIKE ME SINCE I GOT SEONIL INTO GAMES.

BUT WE HAVE AN INTIMATE BOND WITH EACH OTHER, SINCE WE'VE BEEN HASSLING FOR SO LONG. IN OTHER WORDS, WE ARE FRIENDS, OF A SORT!

YOU DON'T WANT SEONIL TO BE OUT OF TOUCH WHEN HE GROWS UP!

YOU NEED TO FOLLOW THE TRENDS. I MEAN, YOU NEED TO GO WITH THE FLOW.

YOU PUT IN A DOORBELL, AND STILL YOU'RE STUBBORN. THAT'S NOT COOL.

WHAT DID YOU SAY?

HE GOT MAD. HE'LL NEVER CHANGE.

I'M WONDERING HOW HIGH HIS LEVEL IS.

GLANCE

<THE HEAD OF THE CHEON BU GUILD>
LV ?? SEONOH S.

GASP.

I DON'T SEE..
HIS LEVEL.

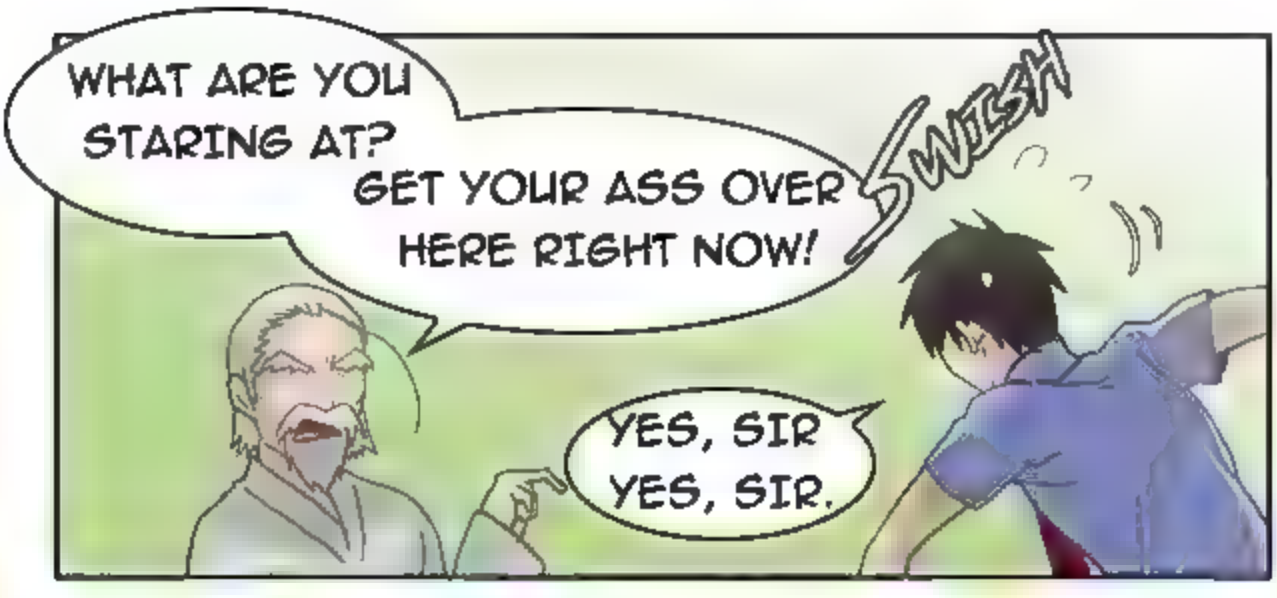
NOW I KNOW
HE IS THE HEAD
OF THE CHEON
BU GUILD

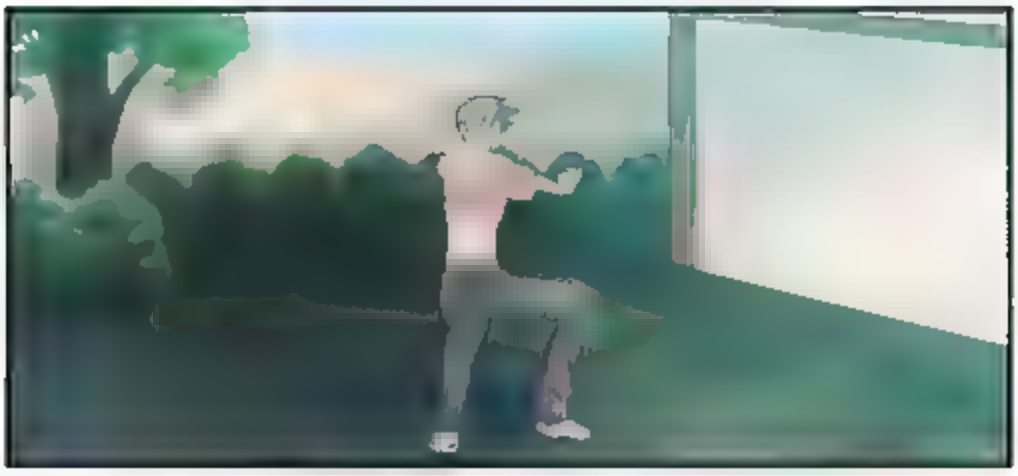
<HEAD OF THE CHEON BU GUILD>
LV ?? SEONO

BUT WHY IS HIS
LEVEL MARKED WITH
QUESTION MARKS?

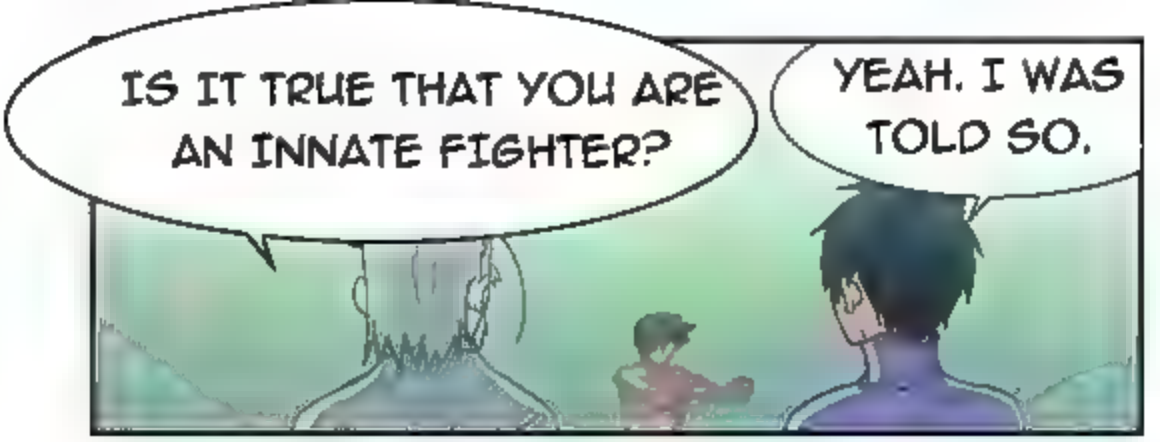
OH, IS THAT IT?!

IF SOMEONE IS WAY HIGHER IN LEVEL THAN ME, IT SHOWS IT AS "???".
IS IT BECAUSE OF THAT RULE THAT I CAN'T SEE HIS LEVEL?
???
IF THAT'S THE CASE, HIS LEVEL IS WAY BEYOND MY IMAGINATION!!

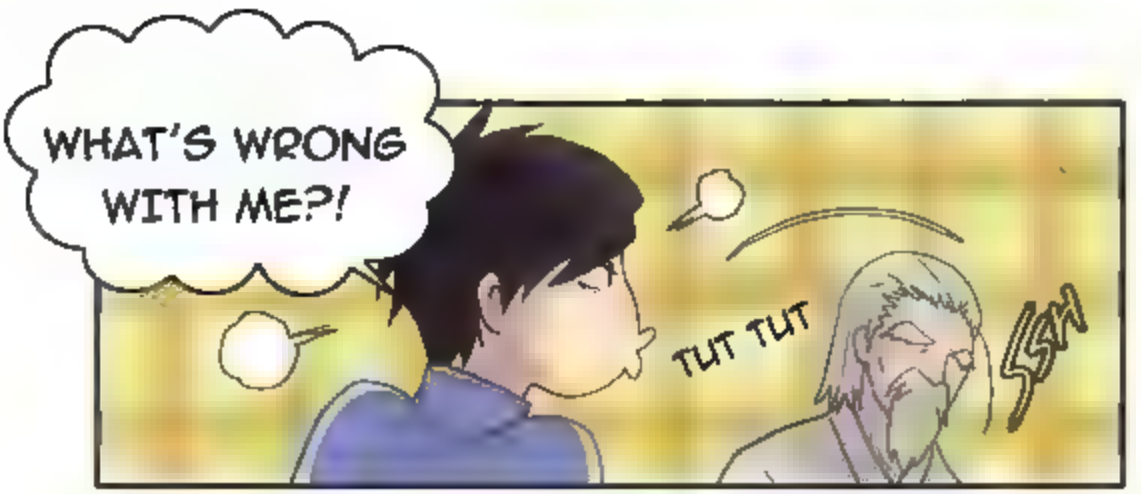

WHAT ARE YOU STARING AT?
GET YOUR ASS OVER HERE RIGHT NOW!
SWISH
YES, SIR YES, SIR.



BUT IS IT ALRIGHT FOR HIM TO BE TRAINING ALREADY?
I NEED TO FIND OUT IF YOU'VE REALLY CURED HIM.

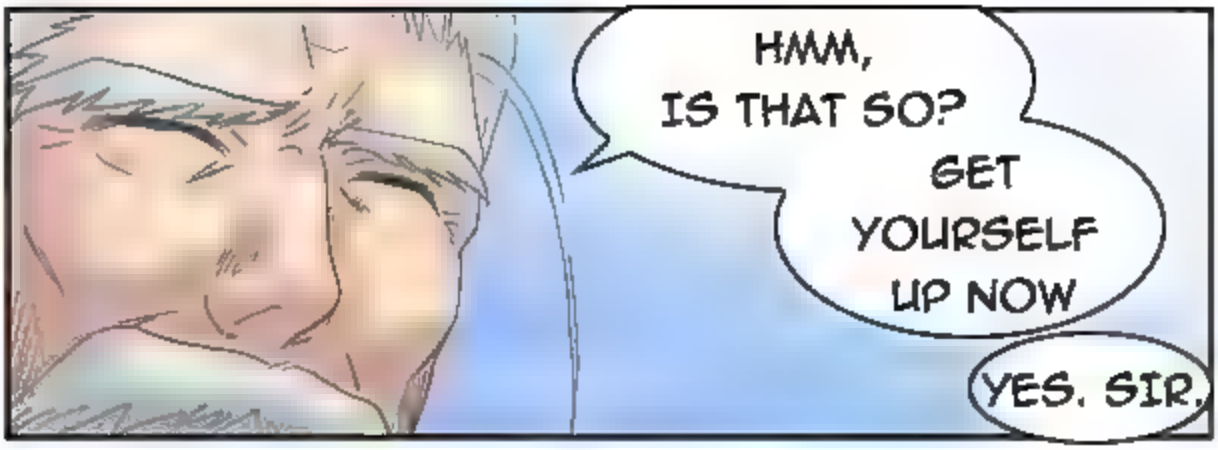

IS IT TRUE THAT YOU ARE AN INNATE FIGHTER?
YEAH. I WAS TOLD SO.

TUT TUT, THIS IS LIKE THE END OF THE WORLD.
HOW COULD SOMEONE LIKE YOU BE AN INNATE FIGHTER?

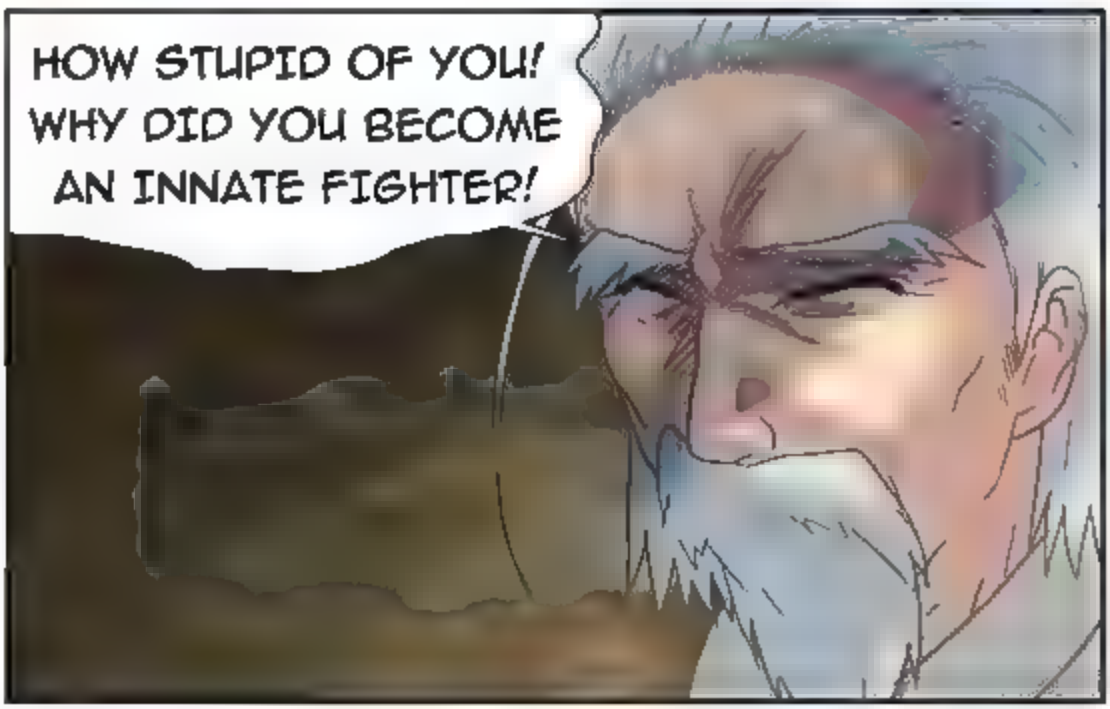

WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME?!
TUT TUT
SSH

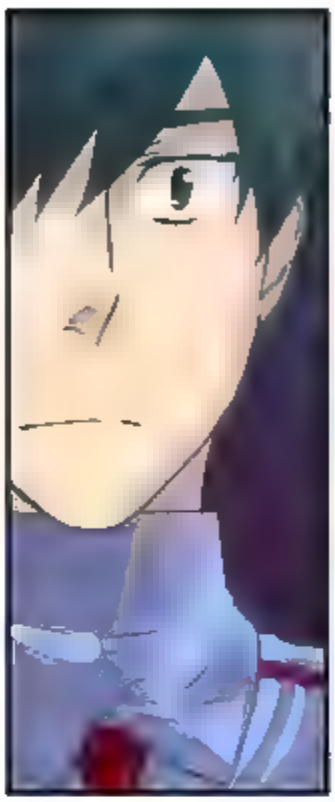
SEONIL,
YES, GRANDPA.

HOW DO YOU FEEL?
EVERYTHING IS WORKING FINE.

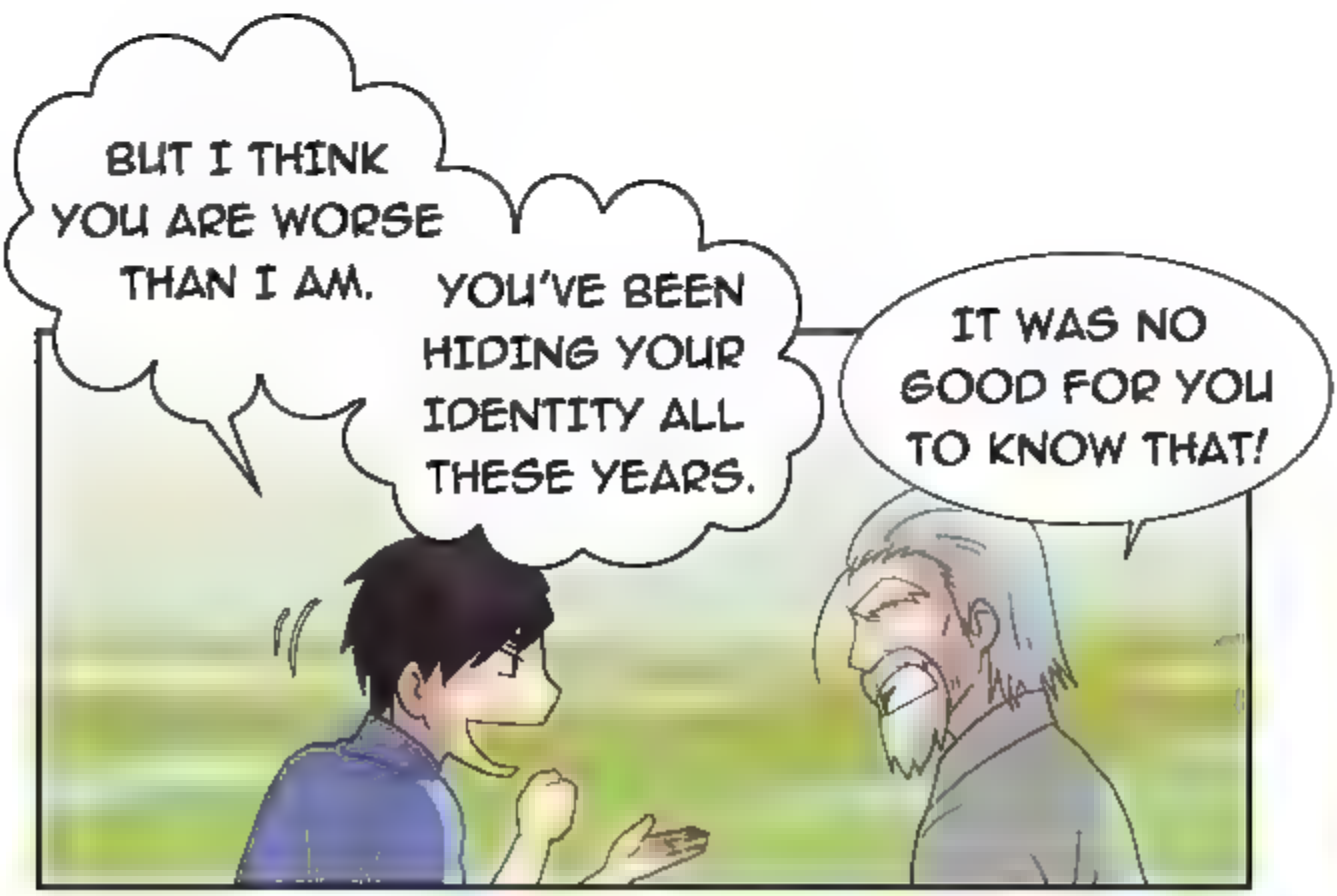

HMM,
IS THAT SO?
GET YOURSELF UP NOW
YES, SIR.

Tuu

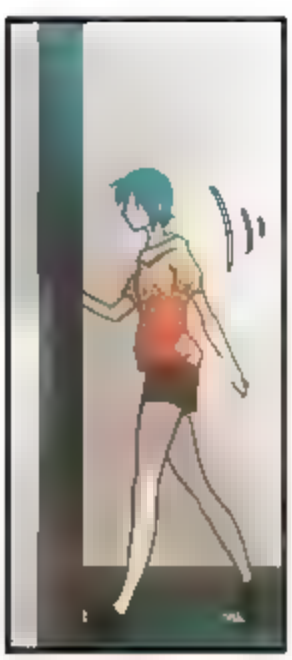

HOW STUPID OF YOU!
WHY DID YOU BECOME AN INNATE FIGHTER!



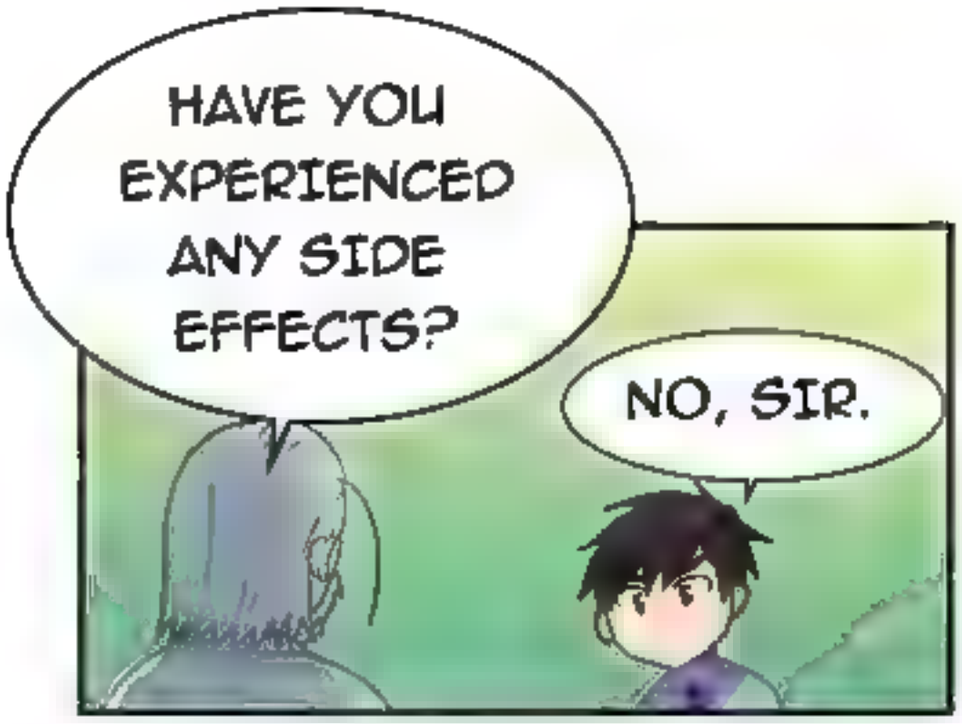
I HAVE NO IDEA HOW IT HAPPENED EITHER.
IT JUST HAPPENED, OUT OF THE BLUE!


BUT I THINK YOU ARE WORSE THAN I AM.
YOU'VE BEEN HIDING YOUR IDENTITY ALL THESE YEARS.
IT WAS NO GOOD FOR YOU TO KNOW THAT!

ANYWAY...
YOU HELPED SEONIL GET CARRIED AWAY WITH HIMSELF WHEN HE WAS LITTLE, AND YOU CALL YOURSELF A FRIEND OF HIS...
SEYOUNG.
YES, GRANDPA.
BRING IT OVER HERE.
ALRIGHT.

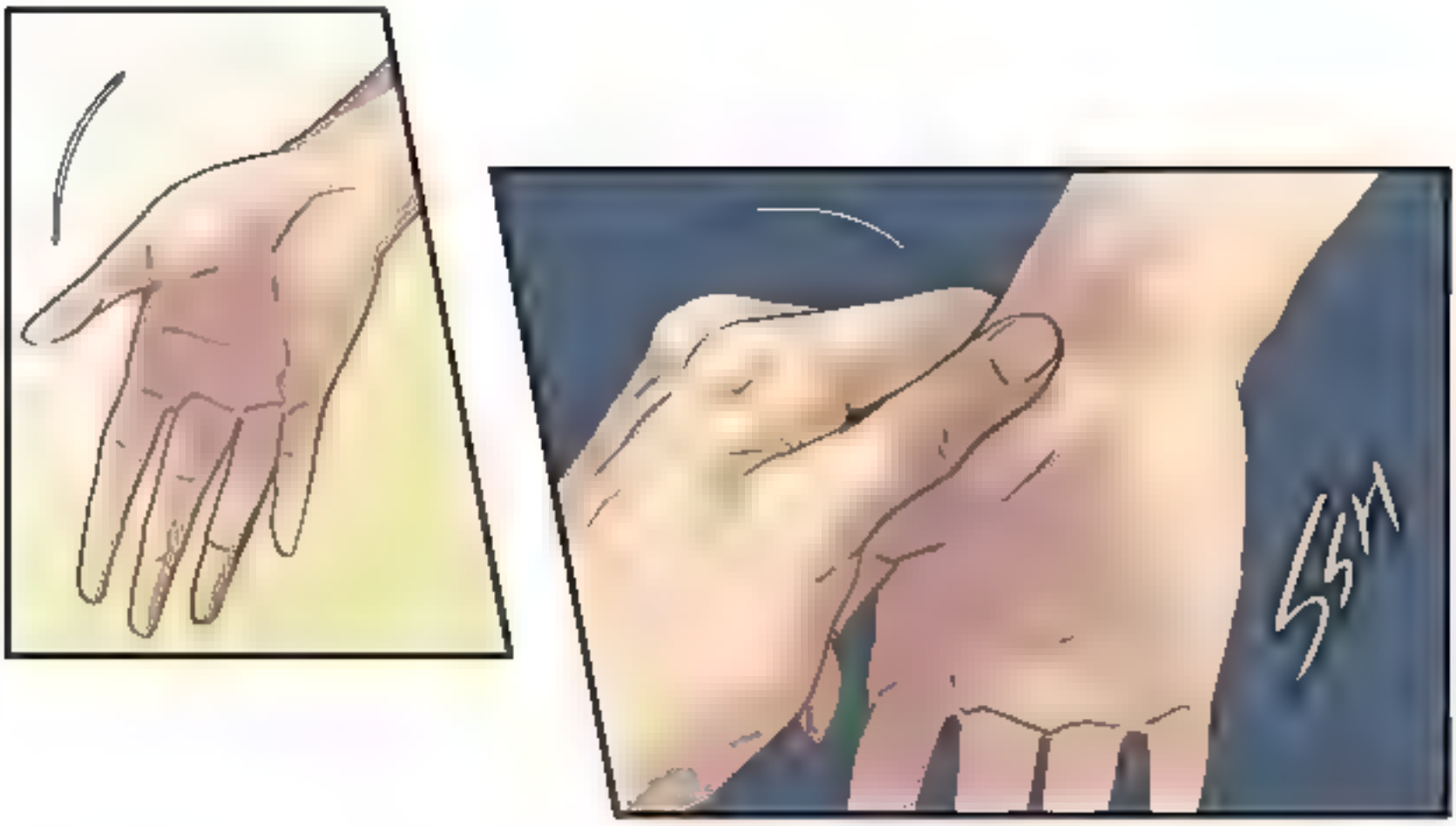


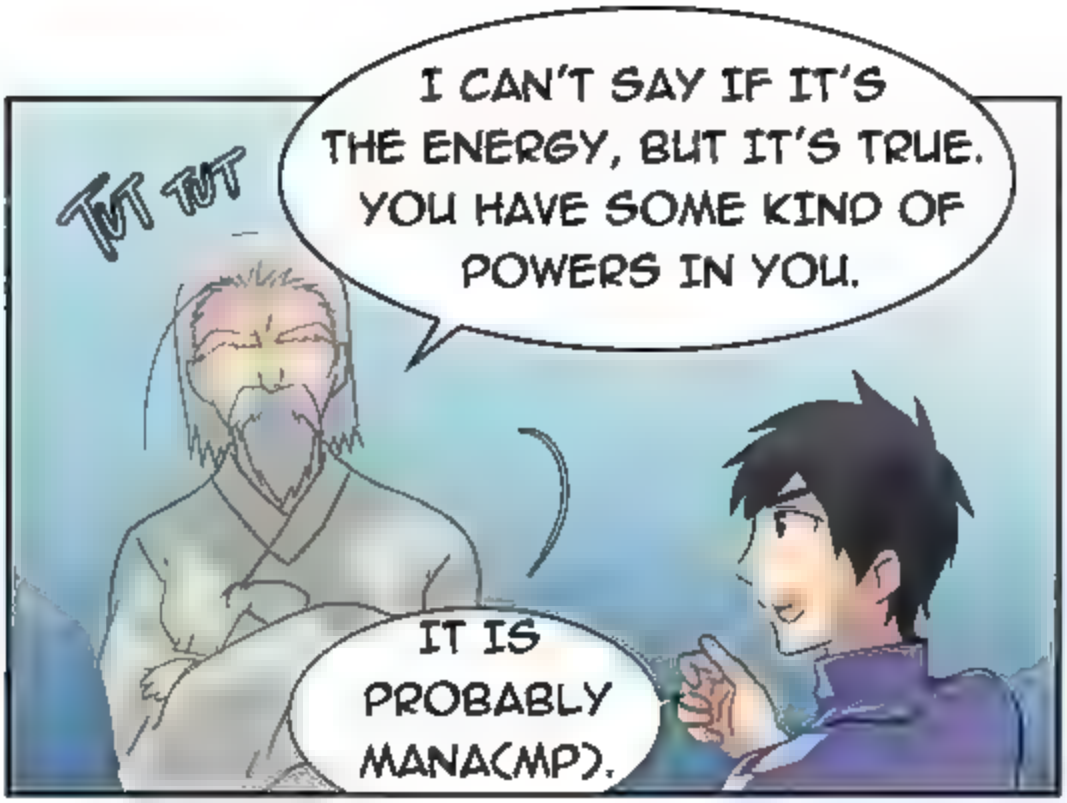
SO, SEONIL TOLD ME YOUR STORY.
YOU CAN MASTER SECRETS JUST BY TOUCHING BOOKS?
THAT'S RIGHT.


HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED ANY SIDE EFFECTS?
NO, SIR.

HMM...

LET ME SEE YOUR HANDS.
NOP
YES...

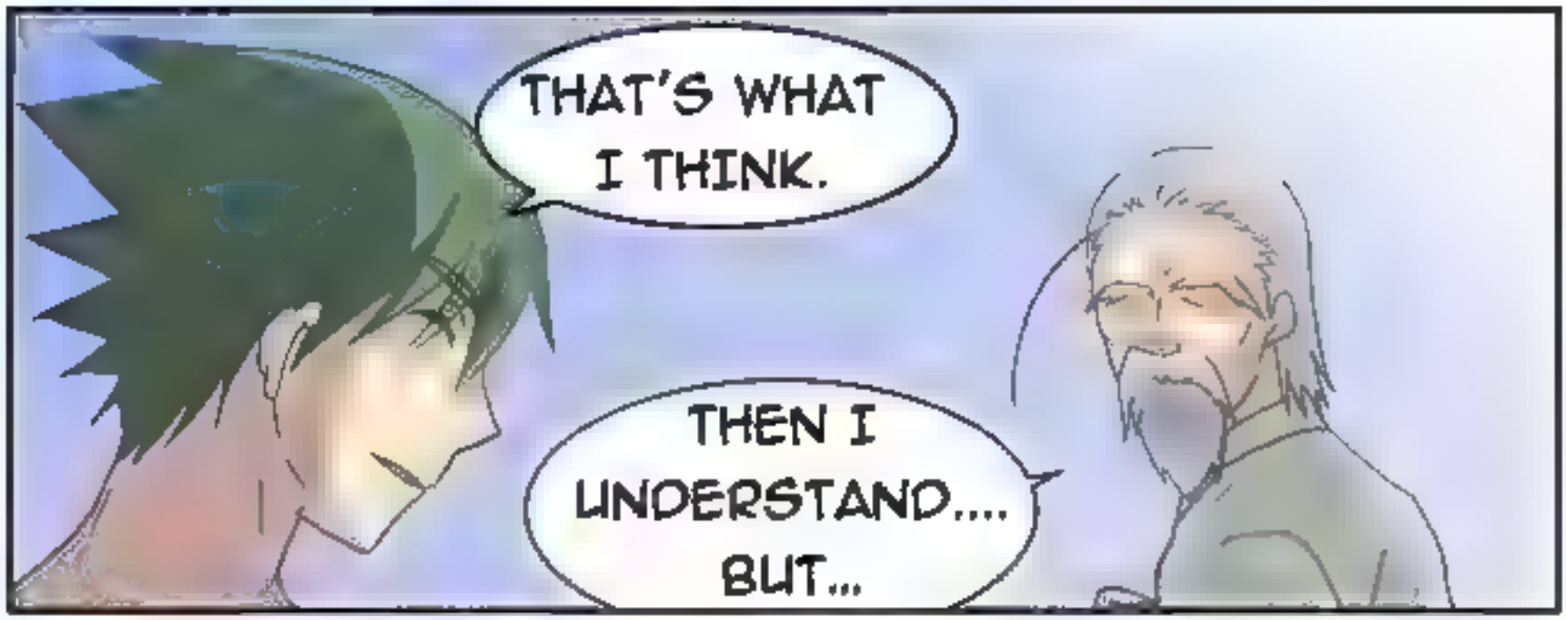


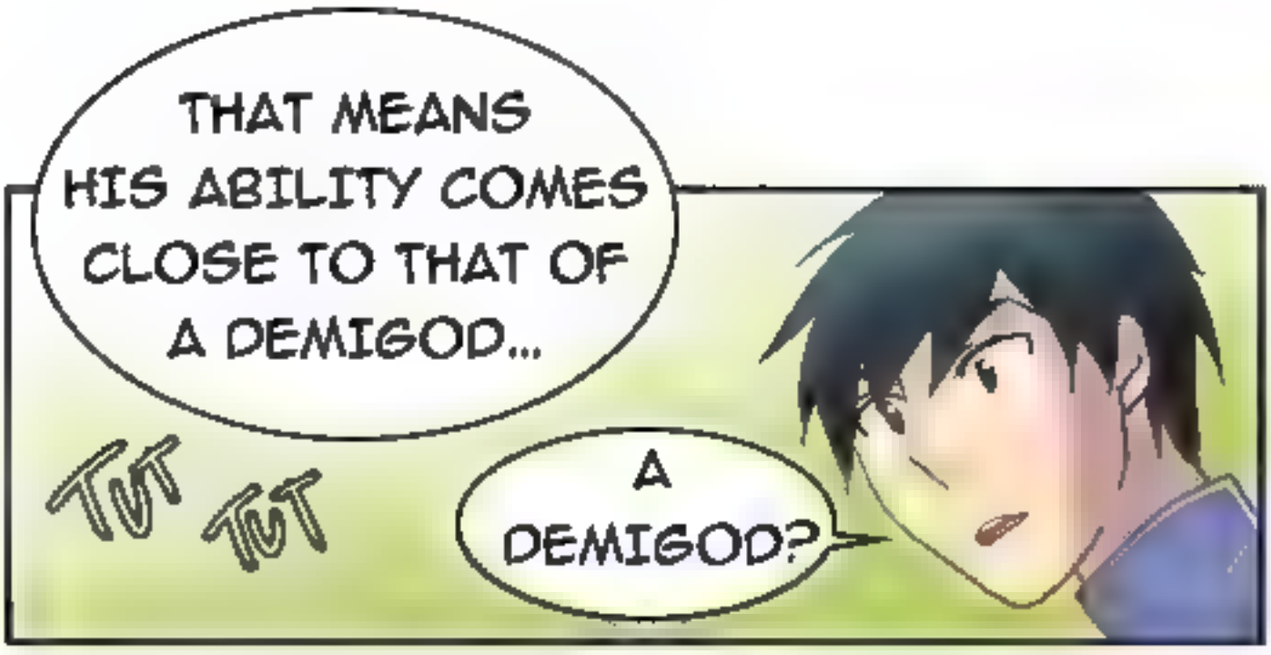

I CAN'T SAY IF IT'S THE ENERGY, BUT IT'S TRUE. YOU HAVE SOME KIND OF POWERS IN YOU.
TUT TUT
IT IS PROBABLY MANA(MP).

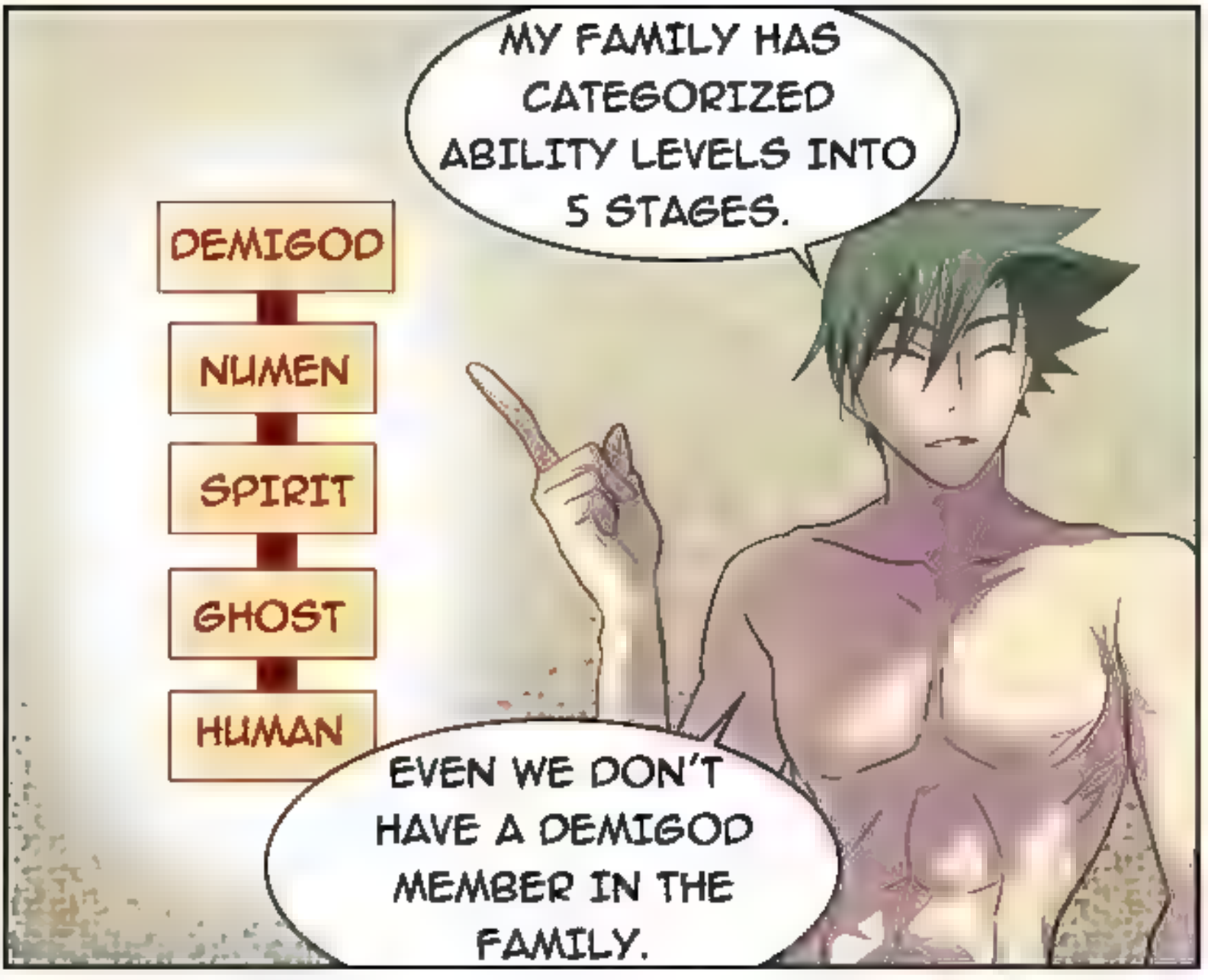
I DON'T THINK YOU CAN USE THE YEON HON PRINCIPAL WITH MANA.
IT SEEMS THATS THE WAY HIS ABILITIES HAVE MANIFESTED, GRANDPA.

IF THAT'S TRUE...

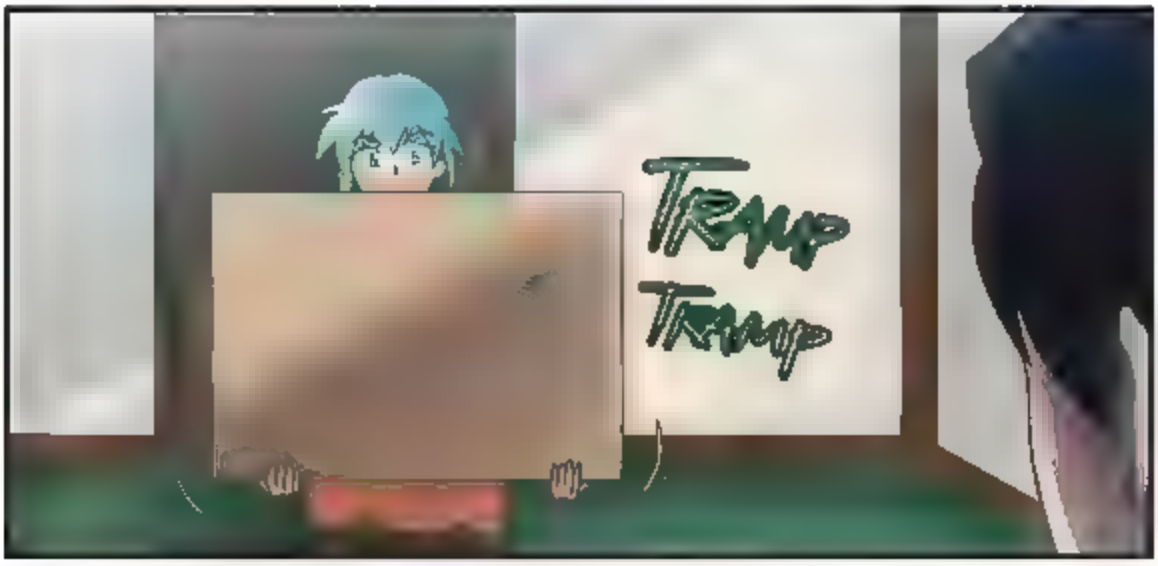
HIS ABILITY IS BEING SUPPORTED BY THE WORLD?


THAT'S WHAT I THINK.
THEN I UNDERSTAND.... BUT...

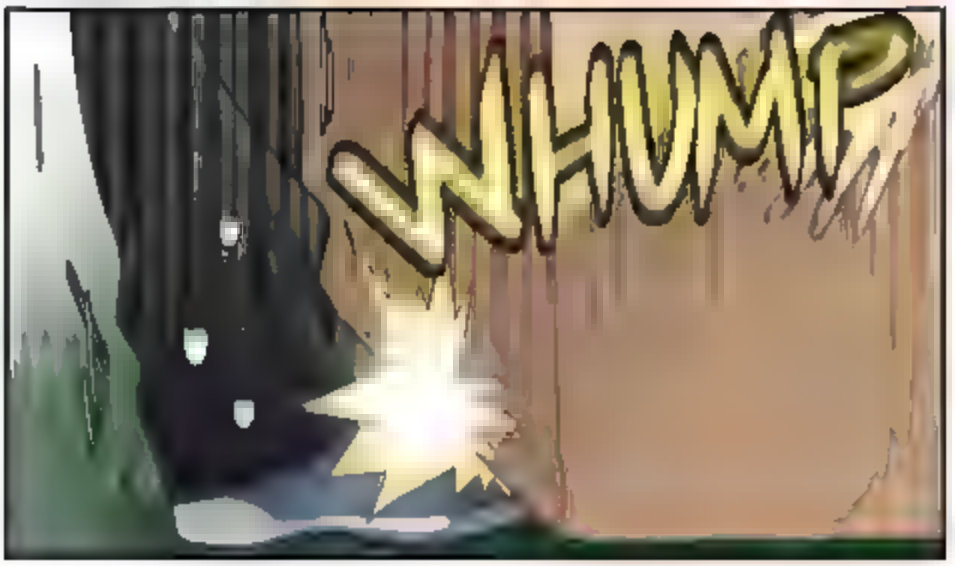

THAT MEANS HIS ABILITY COMES CLOSE TO THAT OF A DEMIGOD...
TUT TUT
A DEMIGOD?

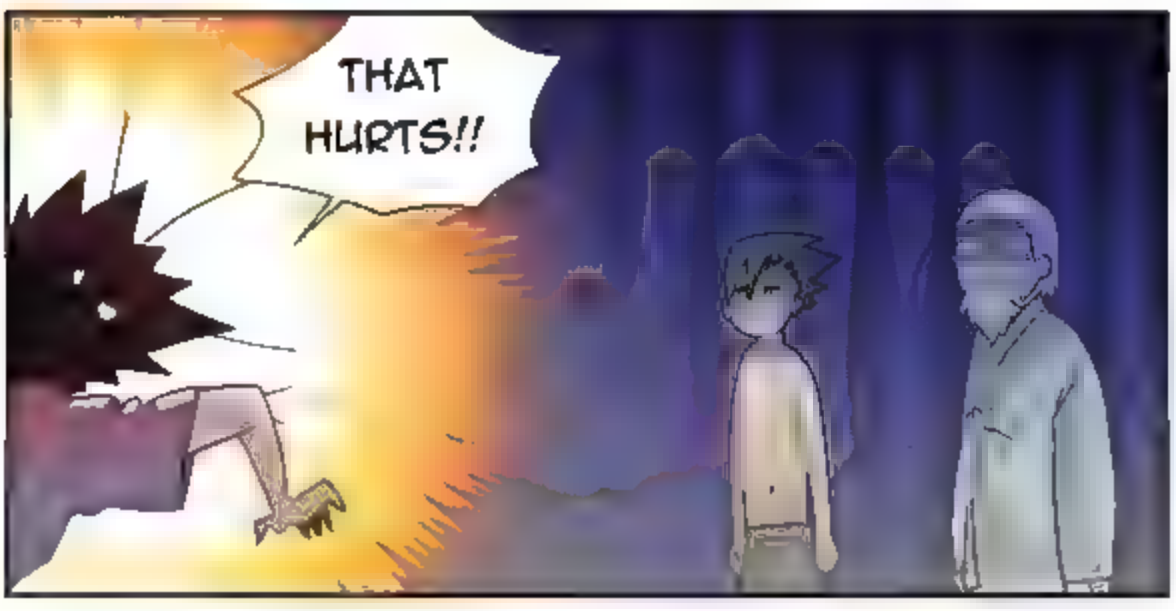

MY FAMILY HAS CATEGORIZED ABILITY LEVELS INTO 5 STAGES.
DEMIGOD
NUMEN
SPIRIT
GHOST
HUMAN
EVEN WE DON'T HAVE A DEMIGOD MEMBER IN THE FAMILY.

REALLY?
IT DOESN'T MEAN MUCH TO ME SINCE I KNOW NOTHING...
RATTLE
CREAK


TRAMP
TRAMP

WOW, YOU ARE STRONG!
EVEN I CAN'T CARRY THAT
CRACK



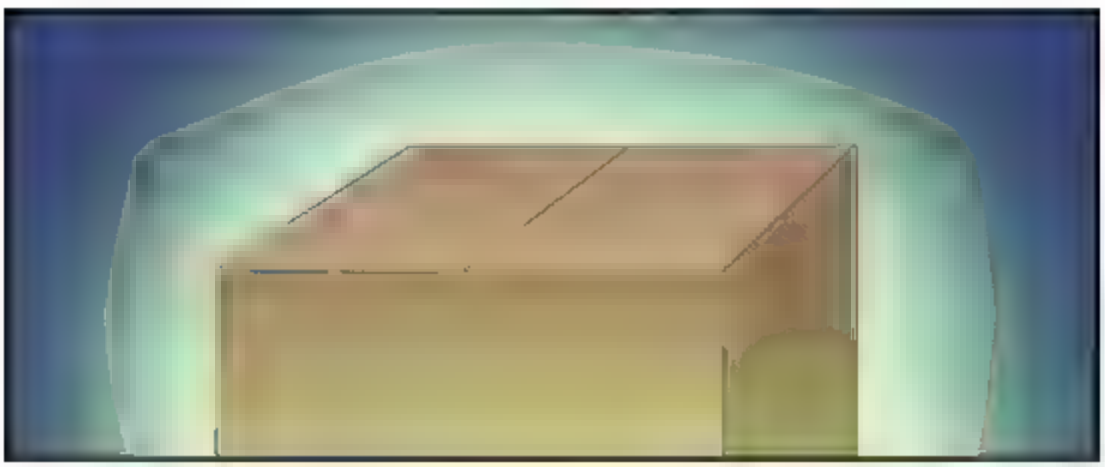


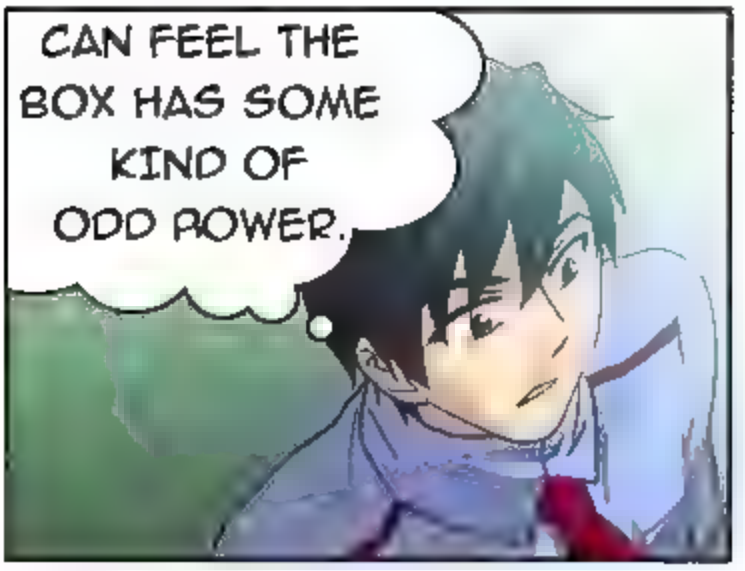
THE GAMER

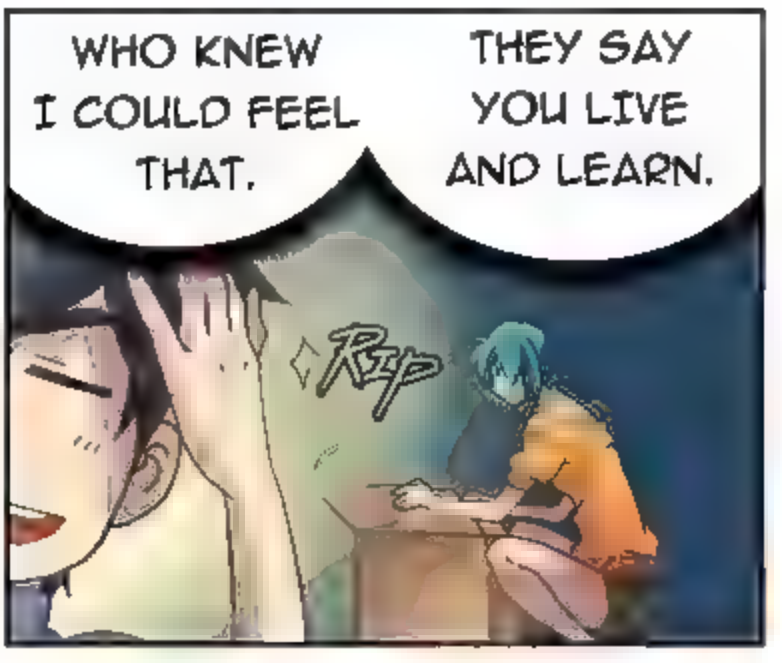
STORY BY SANGYOUNG SEONG
ILLUST BY SANG-A

LINE Webtoon

THE GAMER




CAN FEEL THE BOX HAS SOME KIND OF ODD POWER.

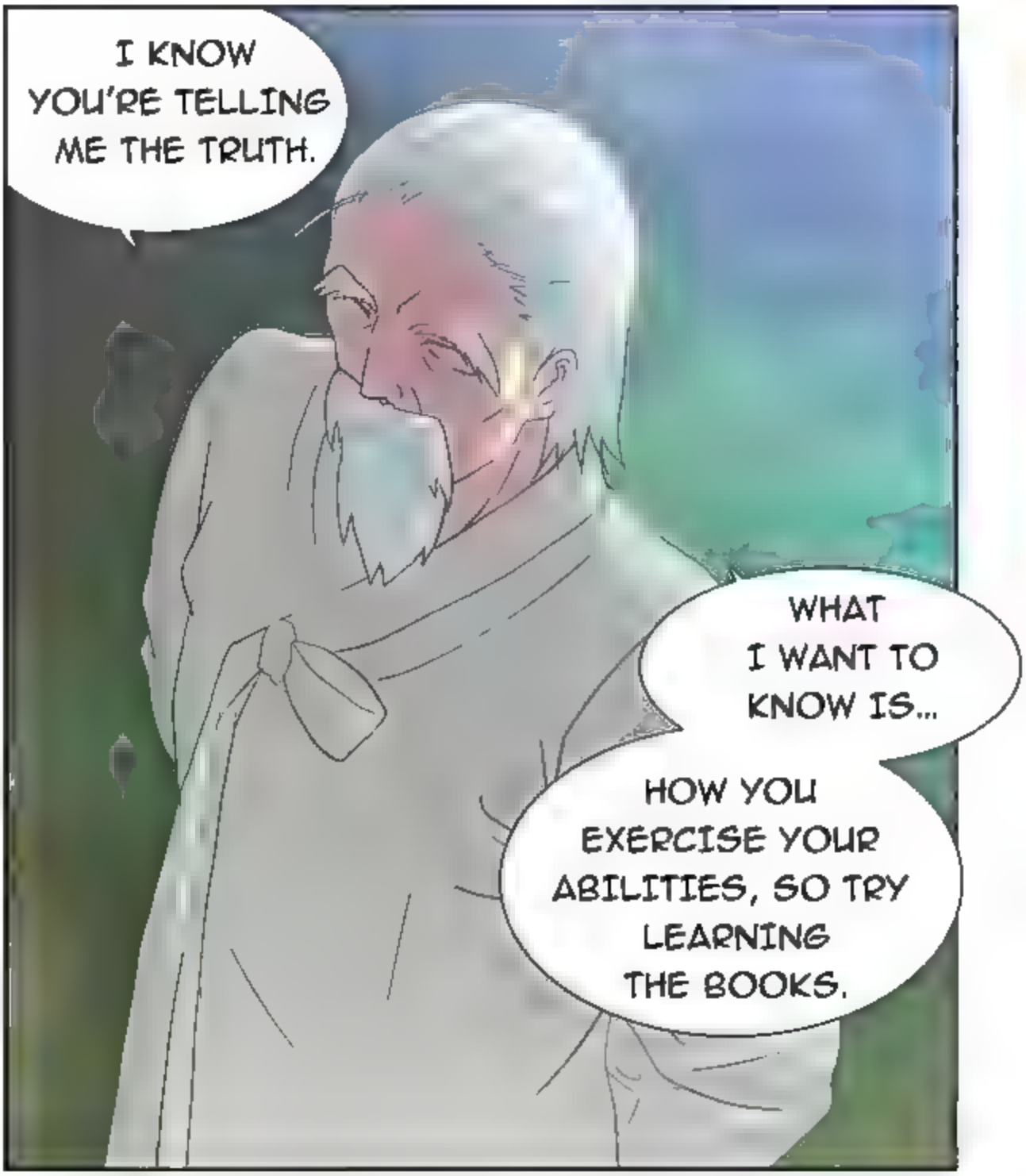

WHO KNEW I COULD FEEL THAT.
THEY SAY YOU LIVE AND LEARN.
RIP

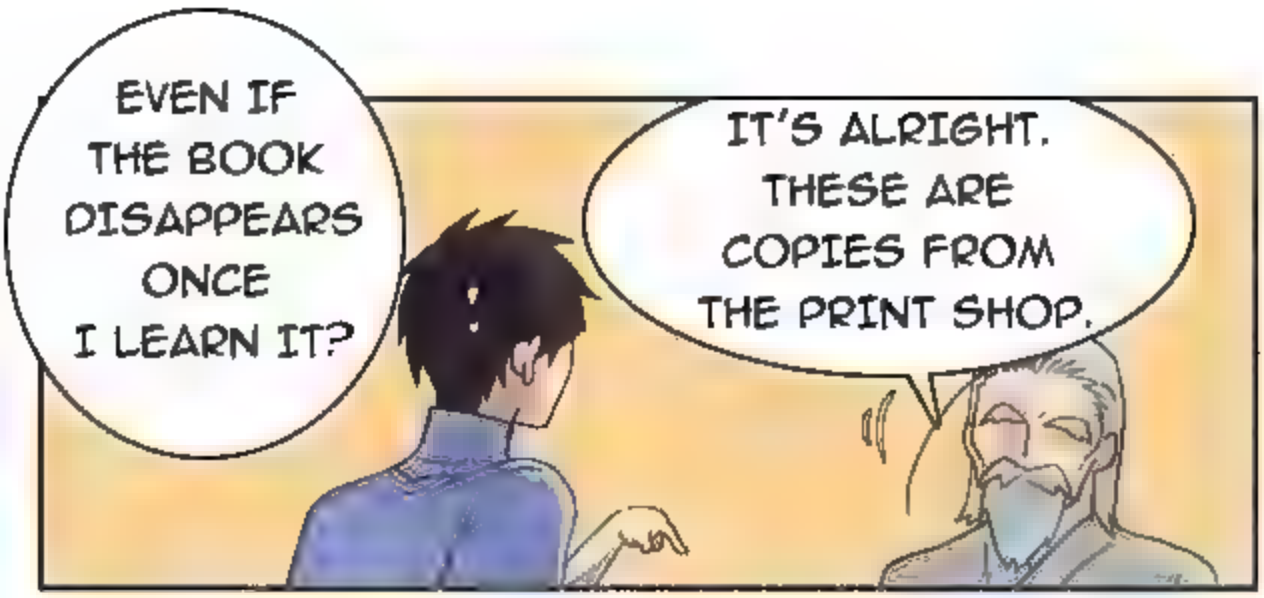
WHAT IS ALL THIS?
THESE ARE MY FAMILY'S OWN MARTIAL ARTS TECHNIQUES.
YOU'LL BE THE FIRST PERSON OUTSIDE OUR FAMILY ALLOWED TO MASTER THEM.
THIS ISN'T SOMETHING WE LIGHTLY APPROVE OF.
YOU MEAN THESE ARE YOUR SECRET RECIPIES.
THAT'S RIGHT.
GASP

LET'S SEE.
SSH

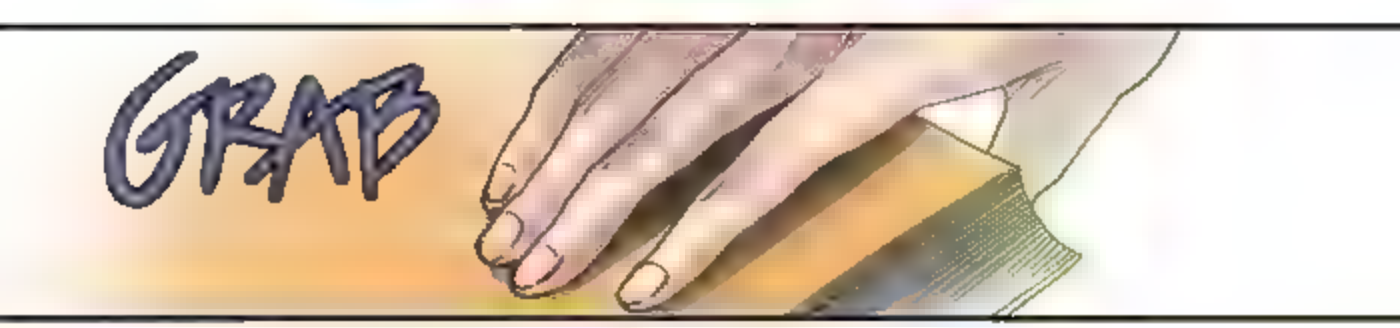
WHY DOES SHE DRESS LIKE THAT?!
WHY DOESN'T HER GRANPA SAY ANYTHING TO HER ABOUT IT?
HERE.

AH, ALRIGHT. BUT WHAT DO I DO WITH THIS?
YOU MASTER IT.


I KNOW YOU'RE TELLING ME THE TRUTH.
WHAT I WANT TO KNOW IS...
HOW YOU EXERCISE YOUR ABILITIES, SO TRY LEARNING THE BOOKS.


EVEN IF THE BOOK DISAPPEARS ONCE I LEARN IT?
IT'S ALRIGHT. THESE ARE COPIES FROM THE PRINT SHOP.

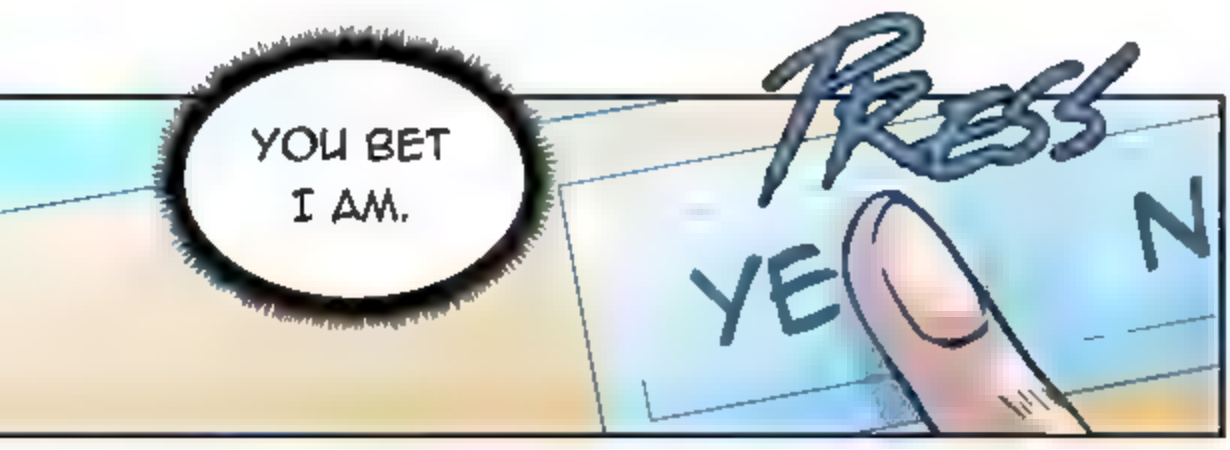
THAT'S WHY IT LOOKS KINDA LIKE A TEACHER'S MANUAL.
THEN I'LL TAKE THIS WITH GRATITUDE.


GRAB

YOU HAVE OBTAINED [PRINCIPLE OF CHEON BU'S THREE SKILLS].

WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN THE SKILL?

YOU BET I AM.



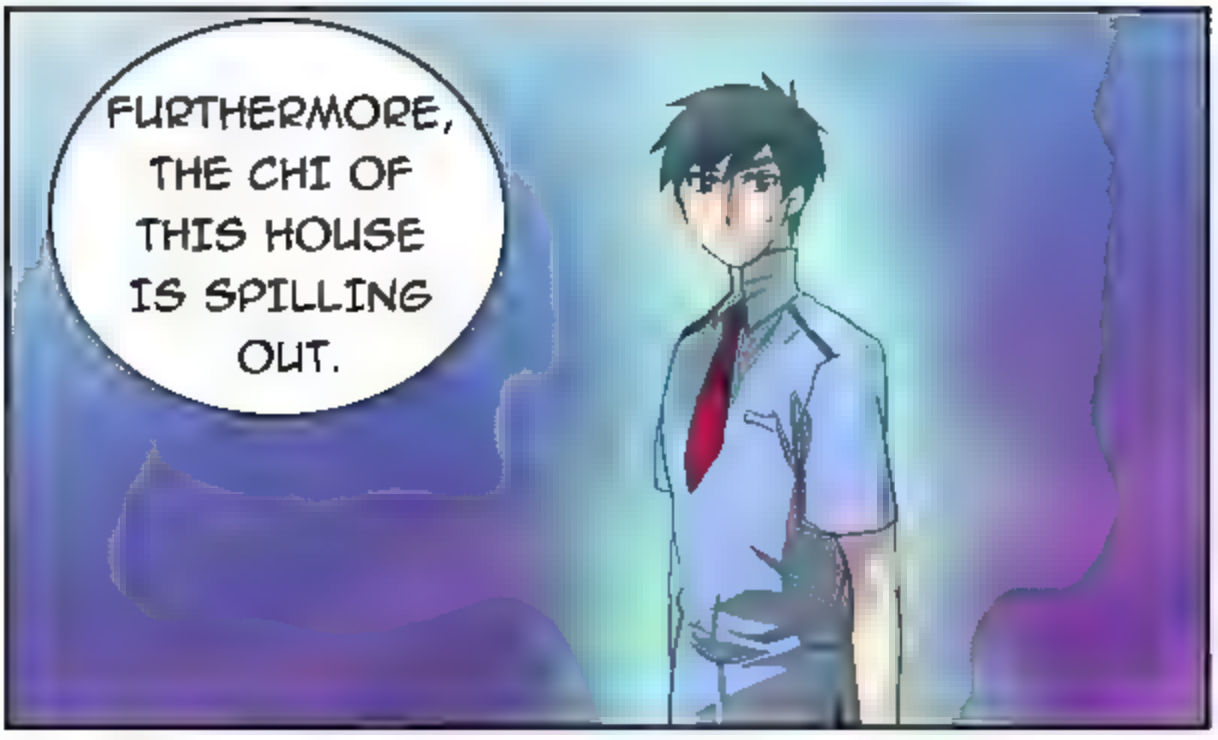
[PRINCIPLE OF CHEON BU'S THREE SKILLS
(PASSIVE & ACTIVE)
LV 1 EXP: 0.00%]
BASIC ENERGY PRINCIPLE OF
THE CHEON BU GUILD.
IT REFINES THE WORLD'S BASIC ENERGY
AND SAVES IT IN DANJEON FOR POSITIVE
USE IN THE BODY.
BY DEVELOPING THESE TECHNIQUES, LIMITS
CAN BE OVERCOME.
POINT TOTALS RISE EXPONENTIALLY
BASED ON THE AMOUNT OF ENERGY USED.
BY TRAINING AND GAINING EXPERIENCE
USING THE ENERGY POINT TOTALS CAN
BE RAISED WITHOUT A CAP.

IN PASSIVE STATE, POWER UP BY 10%.
IN PASSIVE STATE, AGILITY UP BY 10%.
IN PASSIVE STATE, STRENGTH UP BY 10%.
IN PASSIVE STATE, MEMORIZATION UP BY 10%.
IN PASSIVE STATE, RECOVERY UP BY 10%.
IN ACTIVE STATE, EXTRA 30% POWER INCREASE.
IN ACTIVE STATE, EXTRA 30% AGILITY INCREASE.
IN ACTIVE STATE, CHI ATTACK IS POSSIBLE.

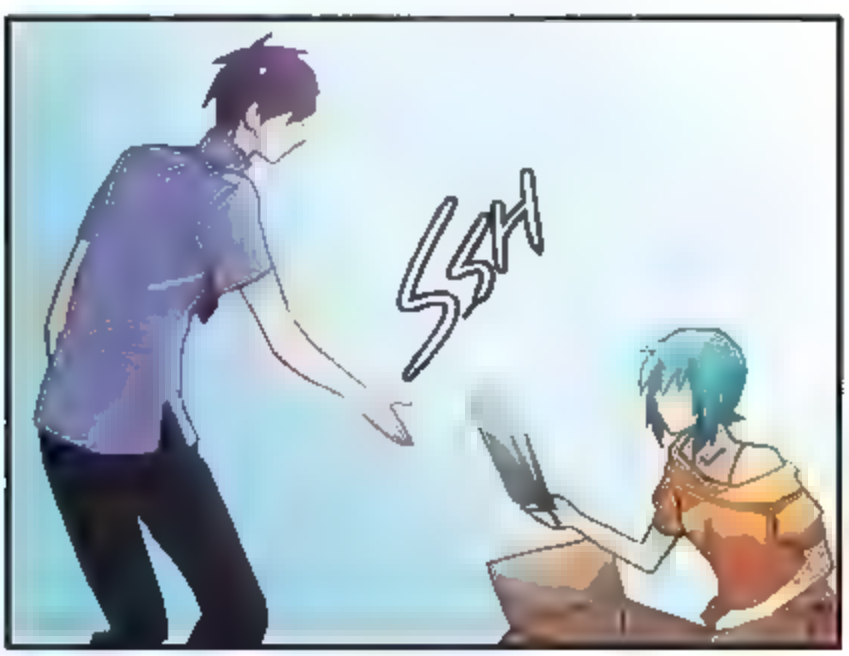
I CAN FEEL THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE CHI CONCENTRATION ART CALLED CHEON BU'S PRINCIPLE OF THREE SKILLS INSTILLING IN MY SUBCONSCIOUSNESS.
ONCE I UNDERSTAND THIS ABILITY, I SEE THAT THE ART OF CHEON BU IS AS POWERFUL AS MY GAMER ABILITY.
FACTORING OUT CHANCE, ALL ABILITY POINTS ARE RAISED BY 10%. EVEN IN PASSIVE MODE!
IT'S CHEATING TO HAVE MY LEVEL POINT TOTALS AND MY MP POINTS INCREASE EXPONENTIALLY,
AND ALSO GAIN MORE MP BY TRAINING WITH MY ENERGY!
IT'S TOTALLY CRAZY!

DO I REALLY DESERVE TO HAVE THIS ABILITY?

GOODNESS, IT REALLY VANISHED.


FURTHERMORE, THE CHI OF THIS HOUSE IS SPILLING OUT.

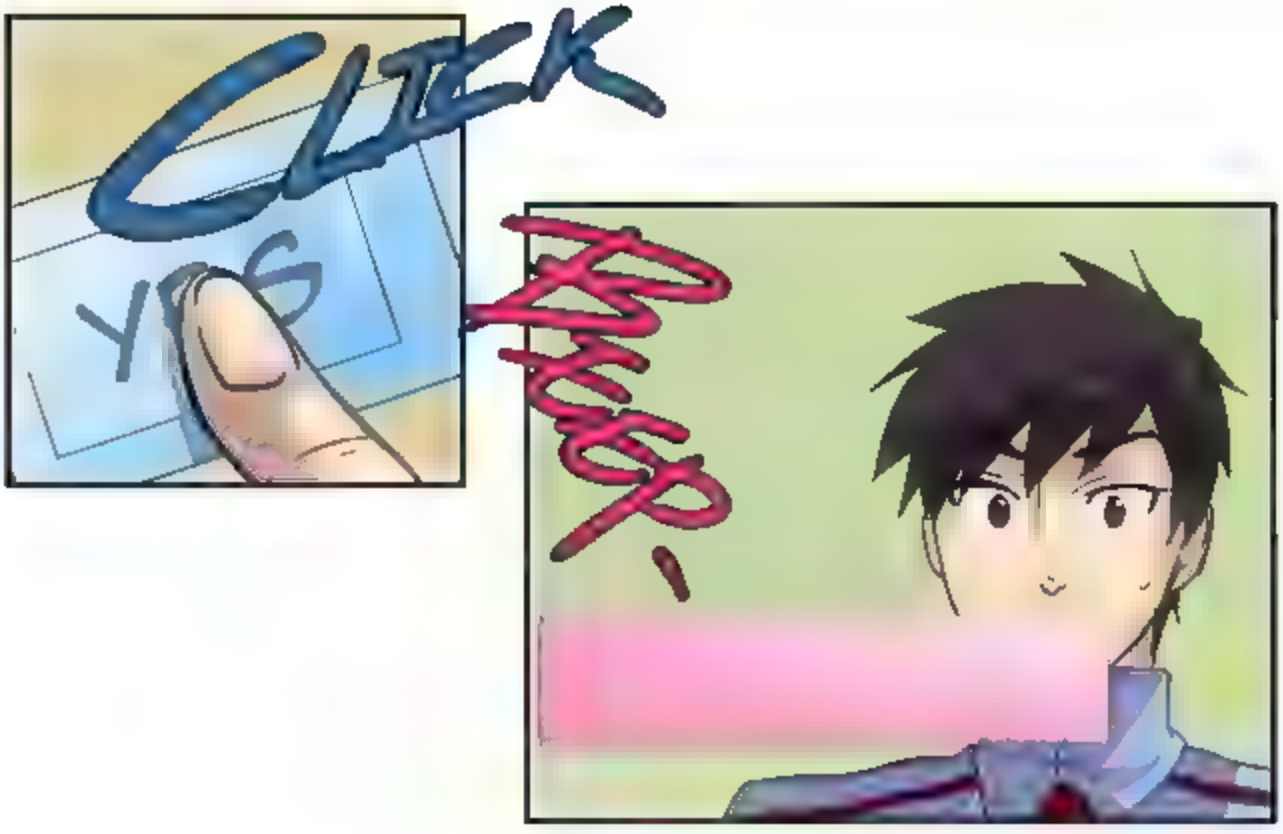
GIVE HIM THE NEXT ONE.
RUSTLE


SSH

TI KING

YOU HAVE OBTAINED
THE SKILL BOOK
[SELF-COMPLACENCY PRINCIPLE].

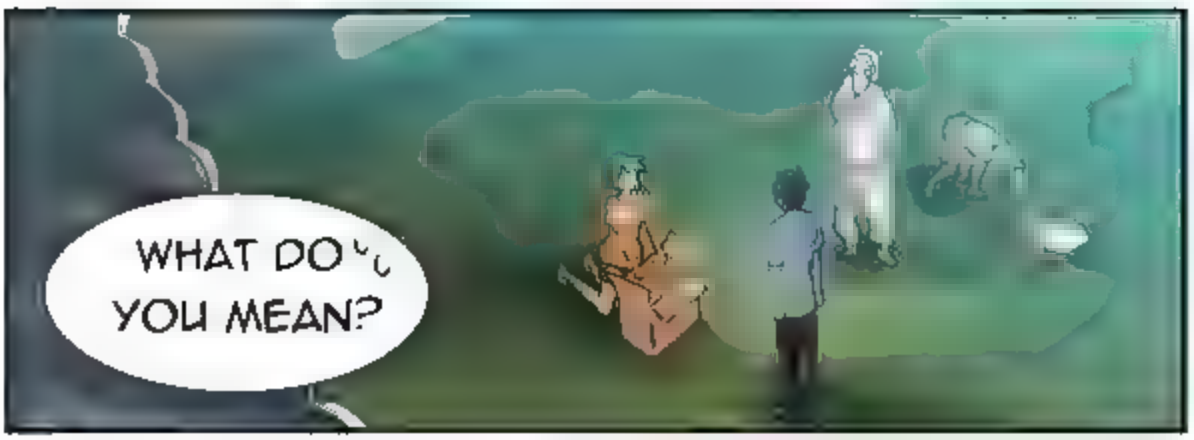
WOULD YOU LIKE
TO LEARN THE SKILL?

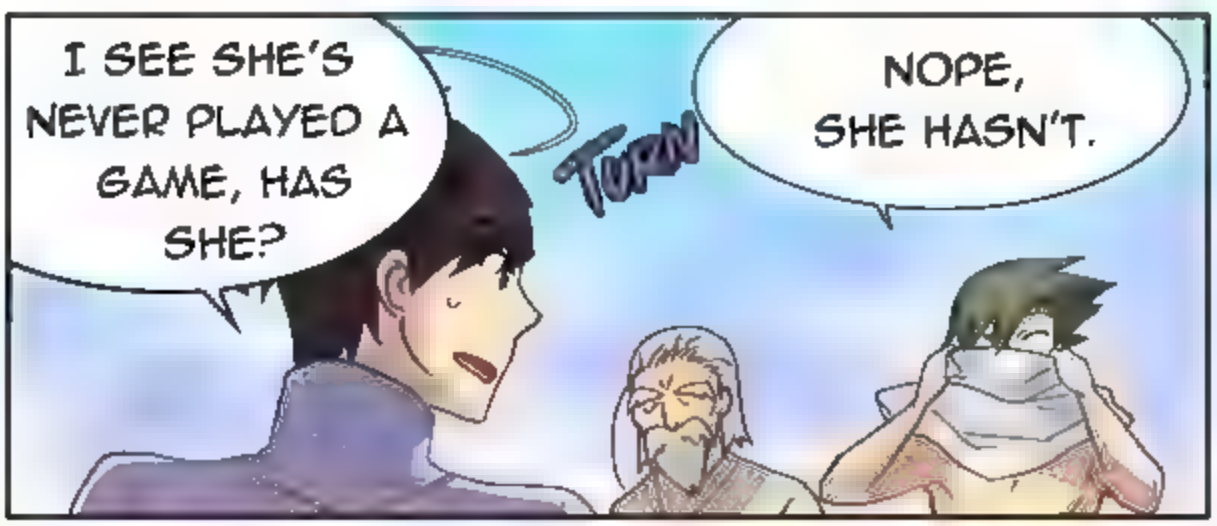


SINCE YOU HAVE LEARNED THE PRINCIPLE OF CHEON BU'S THREE SKILLS, LEARNING THIS SKILL WOULD GIVE A DISADVANTAGE TO YOU.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN THE SKILL?

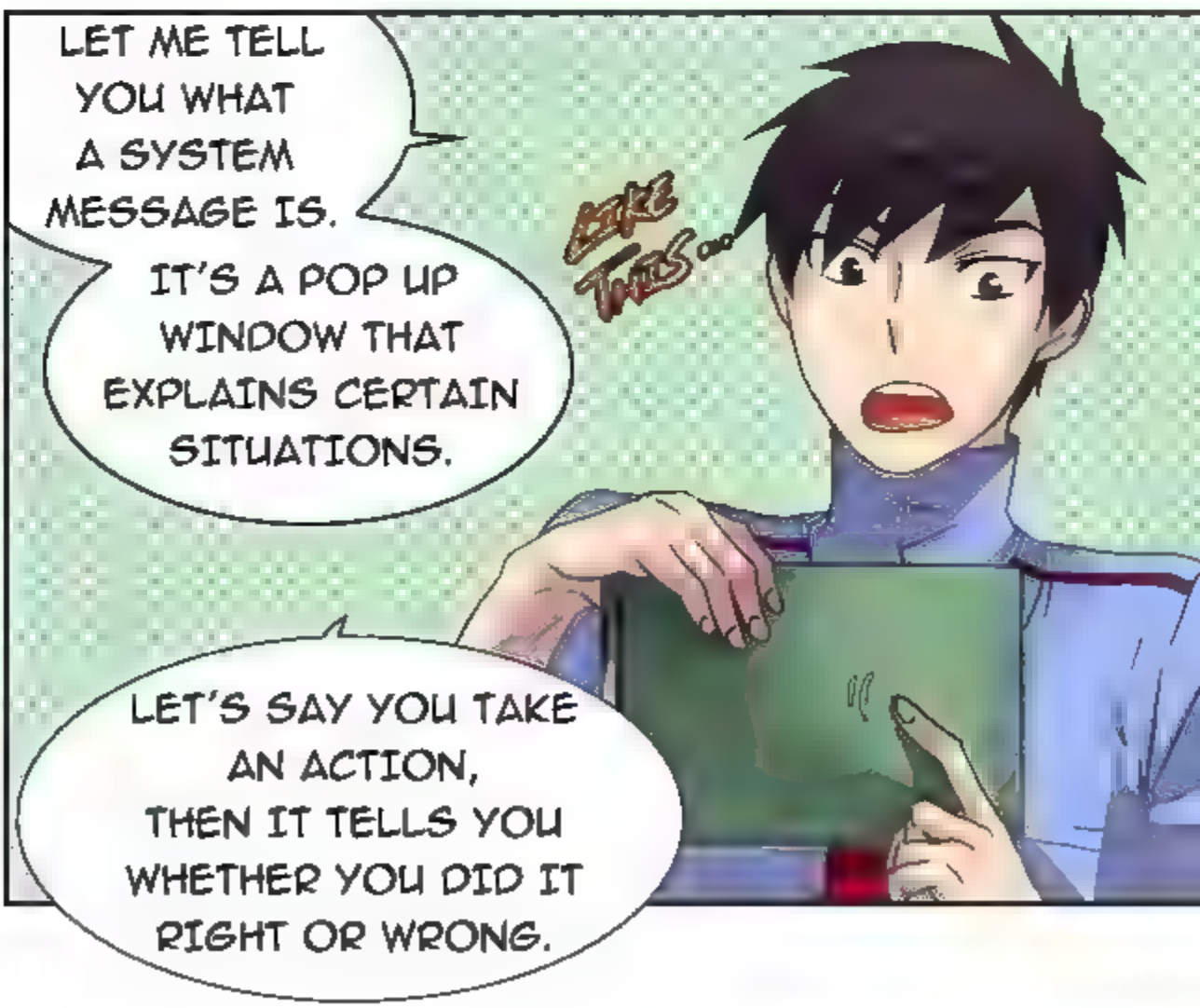
IT SAYS IF I LEARN THIS, IT WILL BRING A DISADVANTAGE!
WHAT?

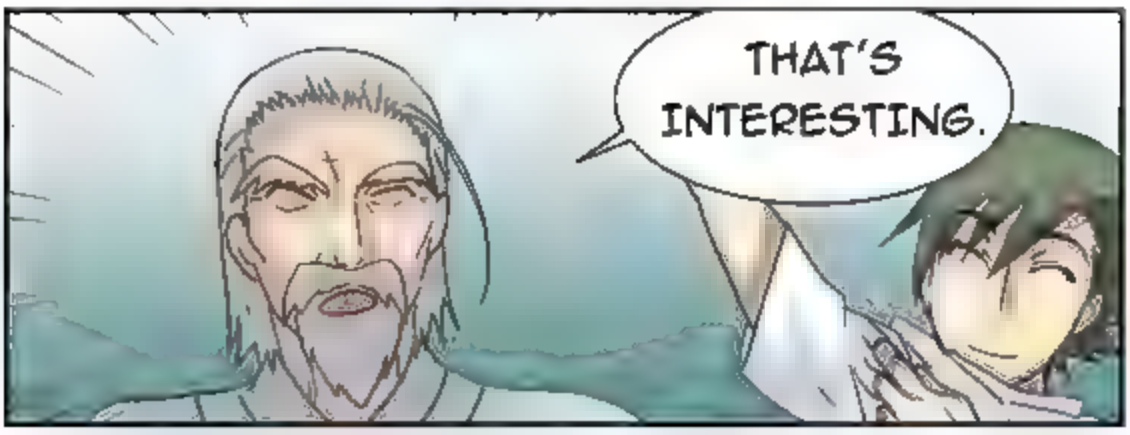

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

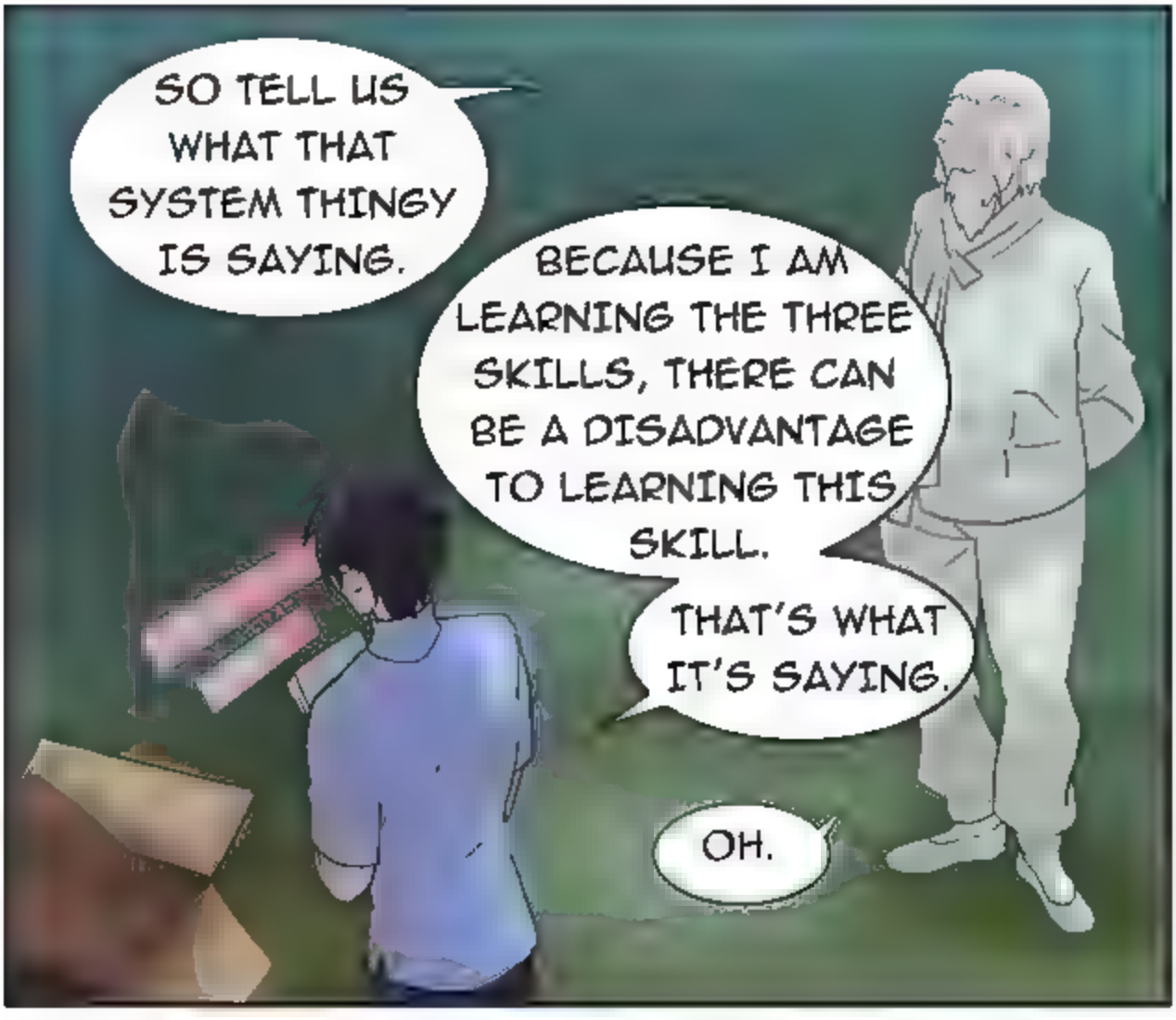

I SEE SHE'S NEVER PLAYED A GAME, HAS SHE?
TURN
NOPE, SHE HASN'T.

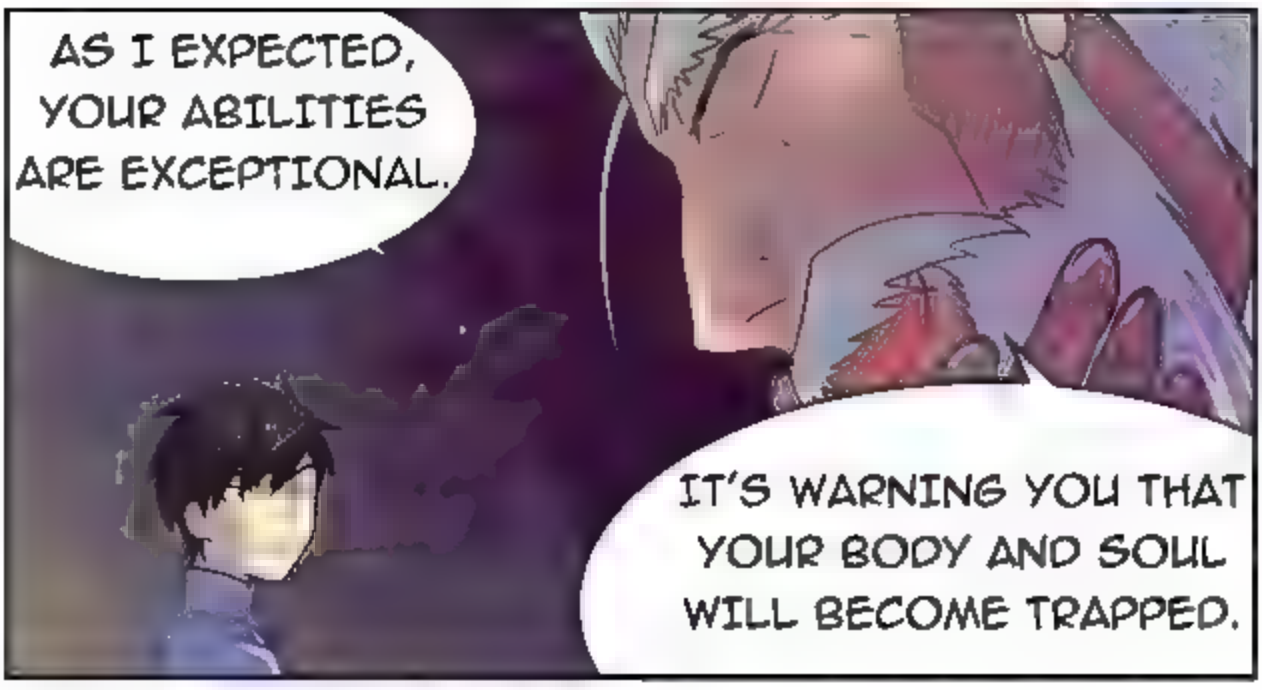
YOU OUTDATED BARBARIAN.
YOU WANNA GET SPANKED?

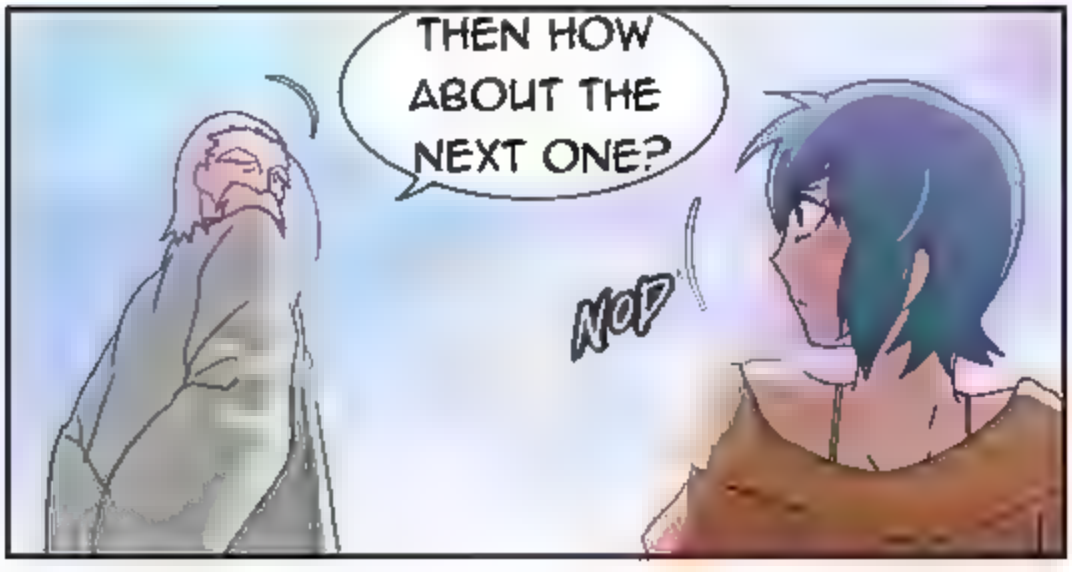
I'M SORRY...

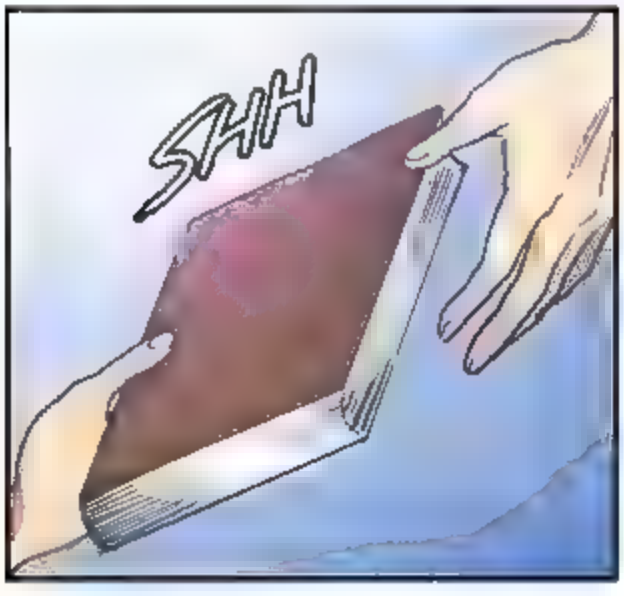

LET ME TELL YOU WHAT A SYSTEM MESSAGE IS.
IT'S A POP UP WINDOW THAT EXPLAINS CERTAIN SITUATIONS.
LIKE THIS...
LET'S SAY YOU TAKE AN ACTION, THEN IT TELLS YOU WHETHER YOU DID IT RIGHT OR WRONG.


THAT'S INTERESTING.


SO TELL US WHAT THAT SYSTEM THINGY IS SAYING.
BECAUSE I AM LEARNING THE THREE SKILLS, THERE CAN BE A DISADVANTAGE TO LEARNING THIS SKILL.
THAT'S WHAT IT'S SAYING.
OH.


AS I EXPECTED, YOUR ABILITIES ARE EXCEPTIONAL.
IT'S WARNING YOU THAT YOUR BODY AND SOUL WILL BECOME TRAPPED.


THEN HOW ABOUT THE NEXT ONE?
NOD


SHH

TIRING

YOU HAVE OBTAINED [CHEON BU'S DIVINE HELP OF FUNDAMENTAL SPIRIT].

THEN HOW ABOUT THE NEXT ONE?

BEEP—

YOU CANNOT LEARN THE SKILL.

90 INTELLIGENCE POINTS NEEDED TO LEARN THIS SKILL.

90 INTELLIGENCE POINTS NEEDEDTO LEARN THIS SKILL.

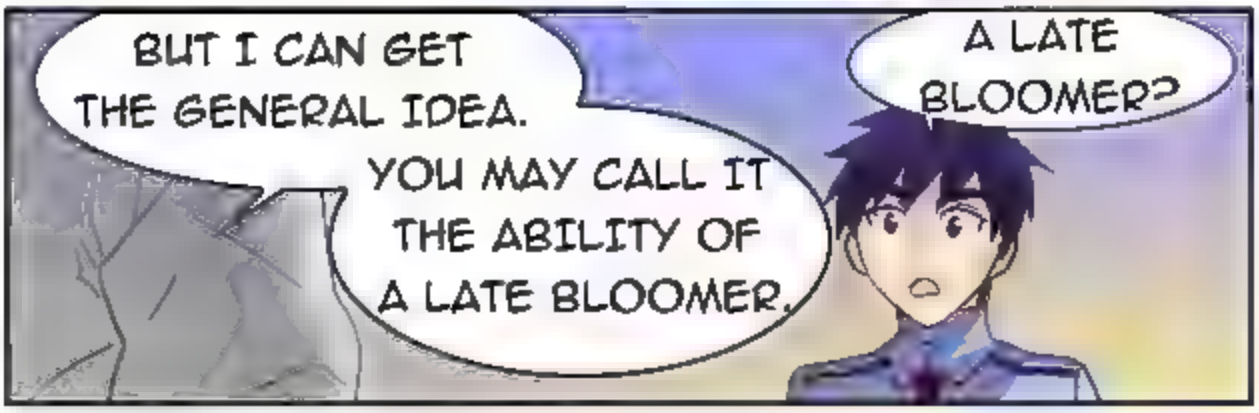
YOU HAVE OBTAINED
[CHEON BU'S DIVINE HELP
OF FUNDAMENTAL SPIRIT].

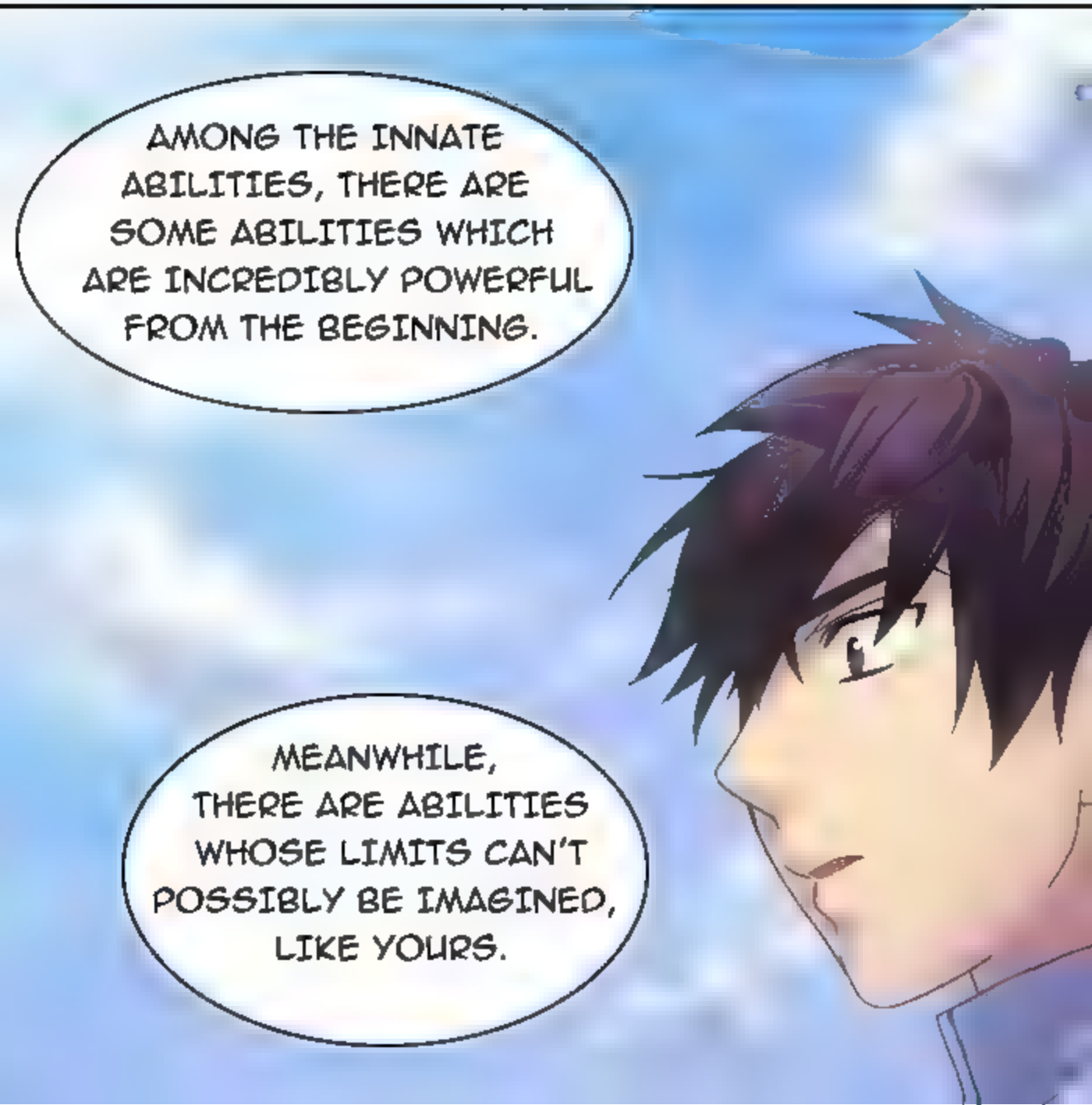
BESIDES,
IT IS NOT A
PRINCIPLE,IT IS
A 'DIVINE'S
HELP'.

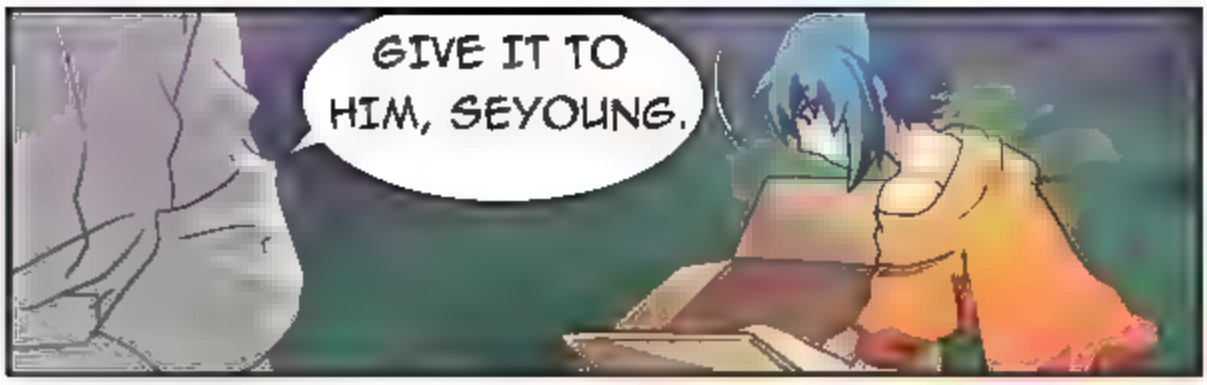
IT MUST BE
A WAY MORE
ADVANCED MARTIAL
CRAFT THAN WHAT
I SAW EARLIER.

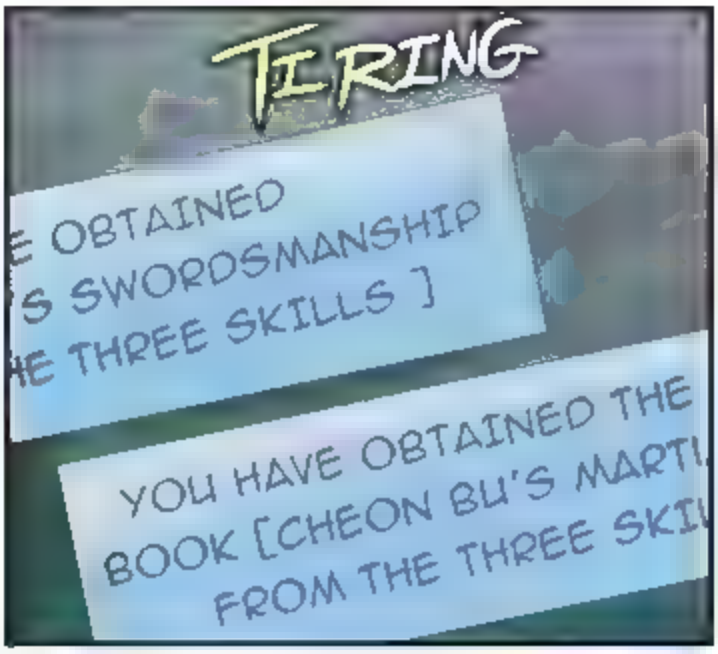
A GAME CHARACTER SHOWS ITS CAPABILITIES IN NUMBERS.
STRENTH 1
STRENGTH 100
FOR INSTANCE, IF YOU HAVE 1 STRENGTH POINT, YOU CAN LIFT A SMALL ROCK.
IF YOU HAVE 100 STRENGTH POINTS, YOU CAN LIFT A BOULDER WITHOUT ANY HELP.
WELL, MAYBE I NEED TO LEARN ALL THAT GAME CRAP TO UNDERSTAND YOUR ABILITIES AFTER ALL.
THAT'S WHAT YOU MIGHT WANNA DO RIGHT NOW.
THERE ARE CHIVARLY-THEMED GAMES THESE DAYS.
SUCH AS BLOOD & SOUL OR TOWER OF GOD ONLINE.
IN YOUR DREAMS.

JUST TELL ME. DO YOU REALLY GET SMARTER WHEN YOU RAISE YOUR INTELL IGENCE RATING?
YES. IT SEEMS THAT WAY.
THAT IS ONE WICKED ABILITY.
TUT TUT

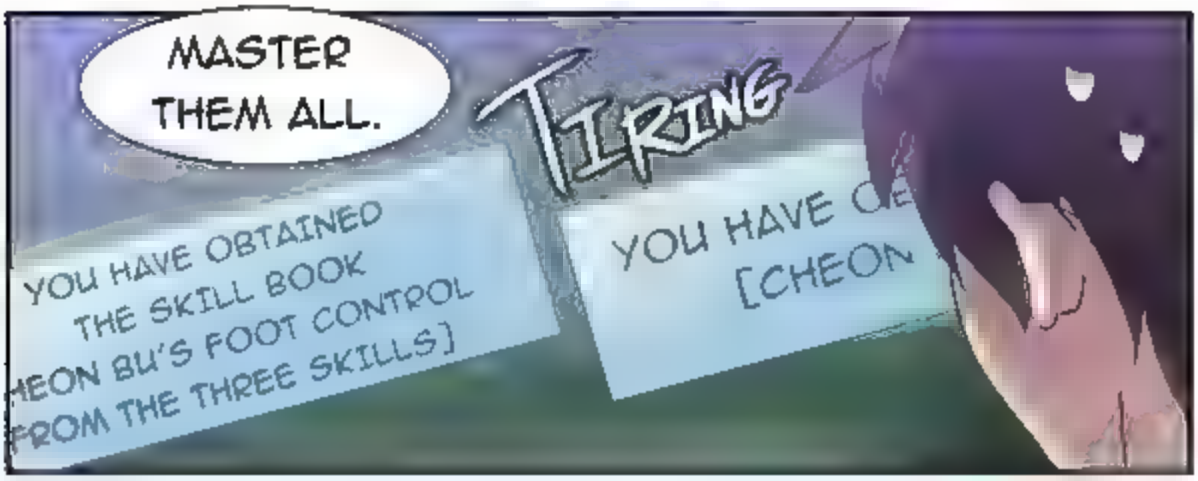

BUT I CAN GET THE GENERAL IDEA.
YOU MAY CALL IT THE ABILITY OF A LATE BLOOMER.
A LATE BLOOMER?


AMONG THE INNATE ABILITIES, THERE ARE SOME ABILITIES WHICH ARE INCREDIBLY POWERFUL FROM THE BEGINNING.
MEANWHILE, THERE ARE ABILITIES WHOSE LIMITS CAN'T POSSIBLY BE IMAGINED, LIKE YOURS.

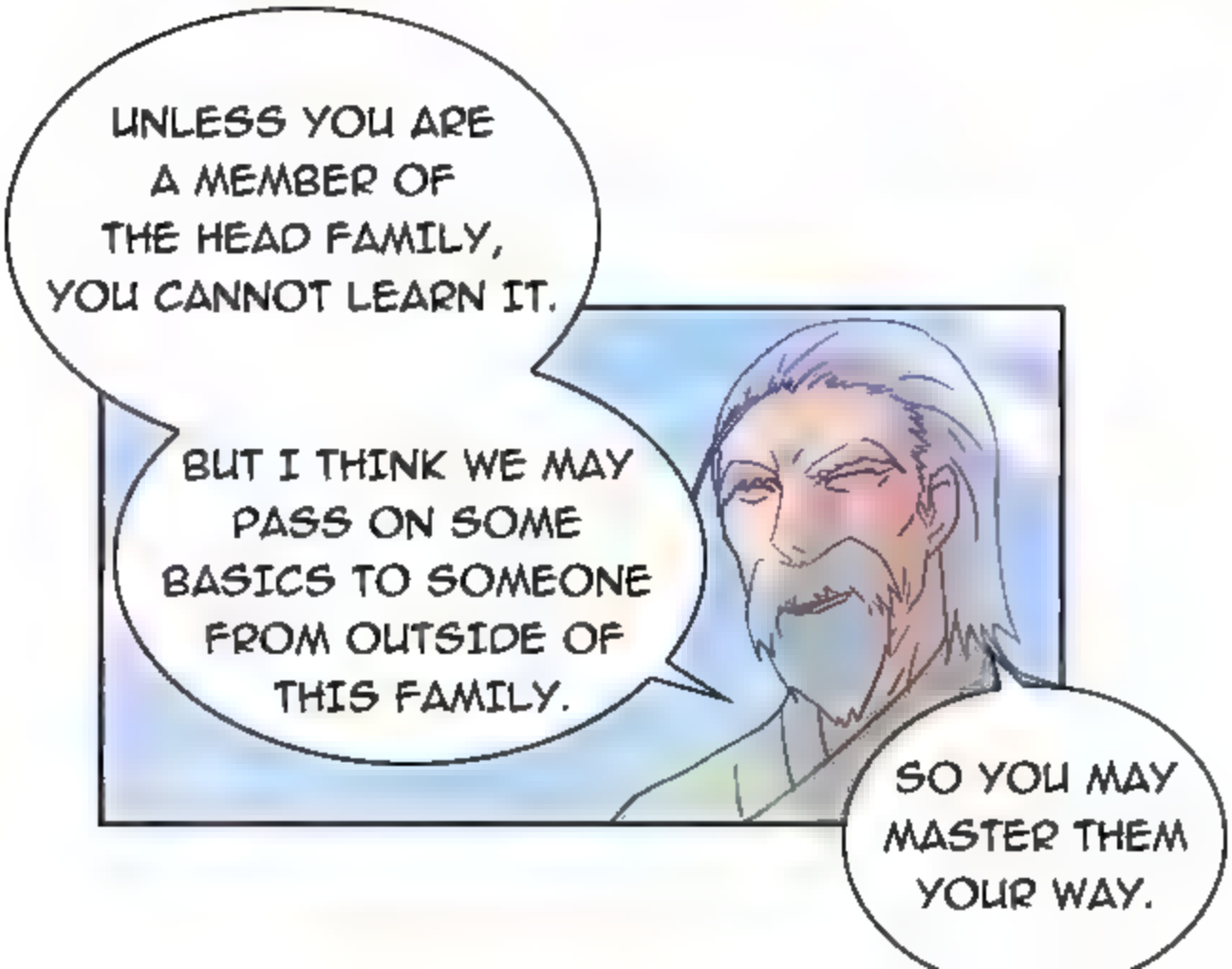

GIVE IT TO HIM, SEYOUNG.


TIRING
E OBTAINED
S SWORDSMANSHIP
HE THREE SKILLS]
YOU HAVE OBTAINED THE
BOOK [CHEON BU'S MARTI
FROM THE THREE SKI

TAKE THIS, TOO.
HUH?
SSH


MASTER THEM ALL.
TIRING
YOU HAVE OBTAINED THE SKILL BOOK
HEON BU'S FOOT CONTROL
FROM THE THREE SKILLS]
YOU HAVE
[CHEON

YOU WANT ME TO MASTER THEM JUST LIKE THAT?


UNLESS YOU ARE A MEMBER OF THE HEAD FAMILY, YOU CANNOT LEARN IT.
BUT I THINK WE MAY PASS ON SOME BASICS TO SOMEONE FROM OUTSIDE OF THIS FAMILY.
SO YOU MAY MASTER THEM YOUR WAY.

[CHEON BU'S SWORDSMANSHIP FROM THE THREE SKILLS (PASSIVE & ACTIVE) LV 1 EXP. 0.00%]
BASIC SWORDSMANSHIP DEVELOPED BY CHEON BU GUILD.
BASIC SWORSMANSHIP MARTIAL CRAFT OF CHEON BU GUILD BASED ON CHEON BU SCRIPTURES
IN PASSIVE STATE, SWORD STRIKING POWER UP BY 10%.IN ACTIVE STATE, CHI ATTACK IS POSSIBLE IF YOU MASTERED THE CHEON BU'S THREE SKILLS, STRIKING POWER UP BY 20%.

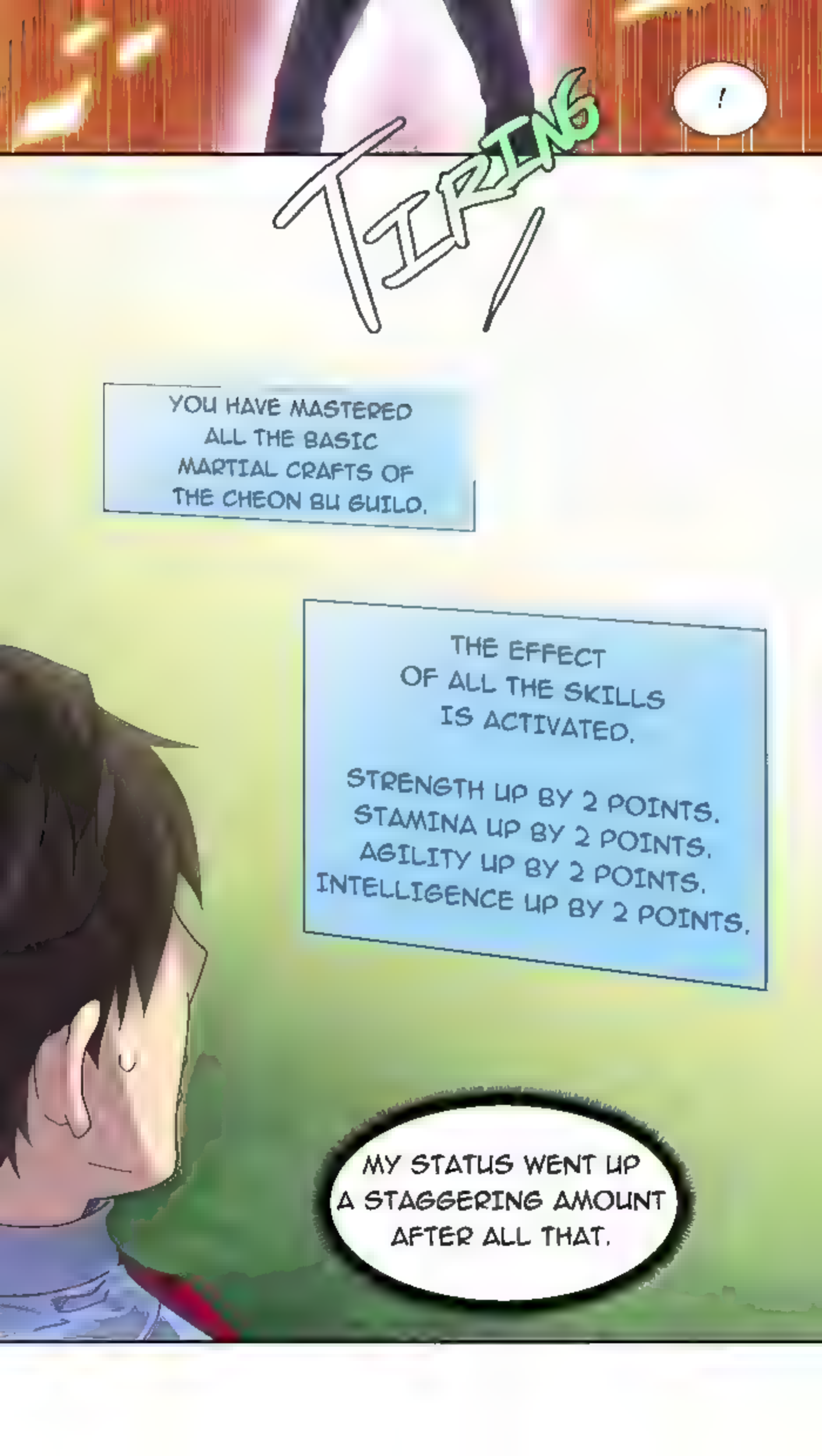
[CHEON BU'S FIST CONTROL FROM THE THREE SKILLS (PASSIVE & ACTIVE) LV 1 EXP. 0.00%]
BASIC MARTIAL ART OF THE FIST DEVELOPED BY CHEON BU GUILD BASED ON CHEON BU SCRIPTURES BASIC MARTIAL ART OF THE FIST OF CHEON BU GUILD. IT CONSISTS OF THREE FISTS CONSISTING OF HEAVEN, EARTH, AND MAN. IN PASSIVE STATE, BARE HAND STRIKING SPEED UP BY 10% IN PASSIVE STATE, BARE HAND STRIKING POWER UP BY 10% IN ACTIVE STATE, CHI ATTACK IS POSSIBLE. IF YOU MASTERED THE CHEON BU THREE SKILLS, STRIKING POWER UP BY 20%.

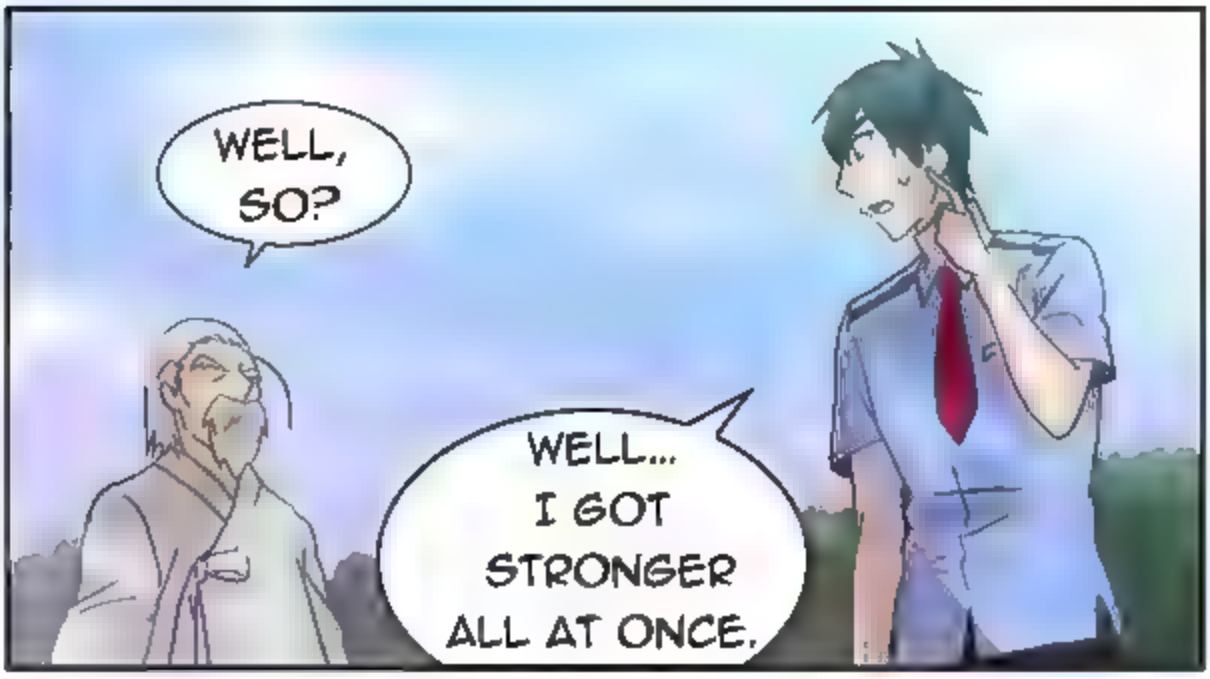
[CHEON BU'S FOOT CONTROL FROM THE THREE SKILLS (PASSIVE & ACTIVE) LV 1 EXP. 0 00%]
BASIC EXTERNAL ENERGY THEORY DEVELOPED BYCHEON BU GUILD BASED ON CHEON BU SCRIPTURES IN PASSIVE STATE, MOVING SPEED UP BY 5%. IN ACTIVE STATE MOVING SPEED UP BY 50%. IF YOU MASTERED THE CHEON BU THREE SKILLS, MOVING SPEED UP BY 20%.

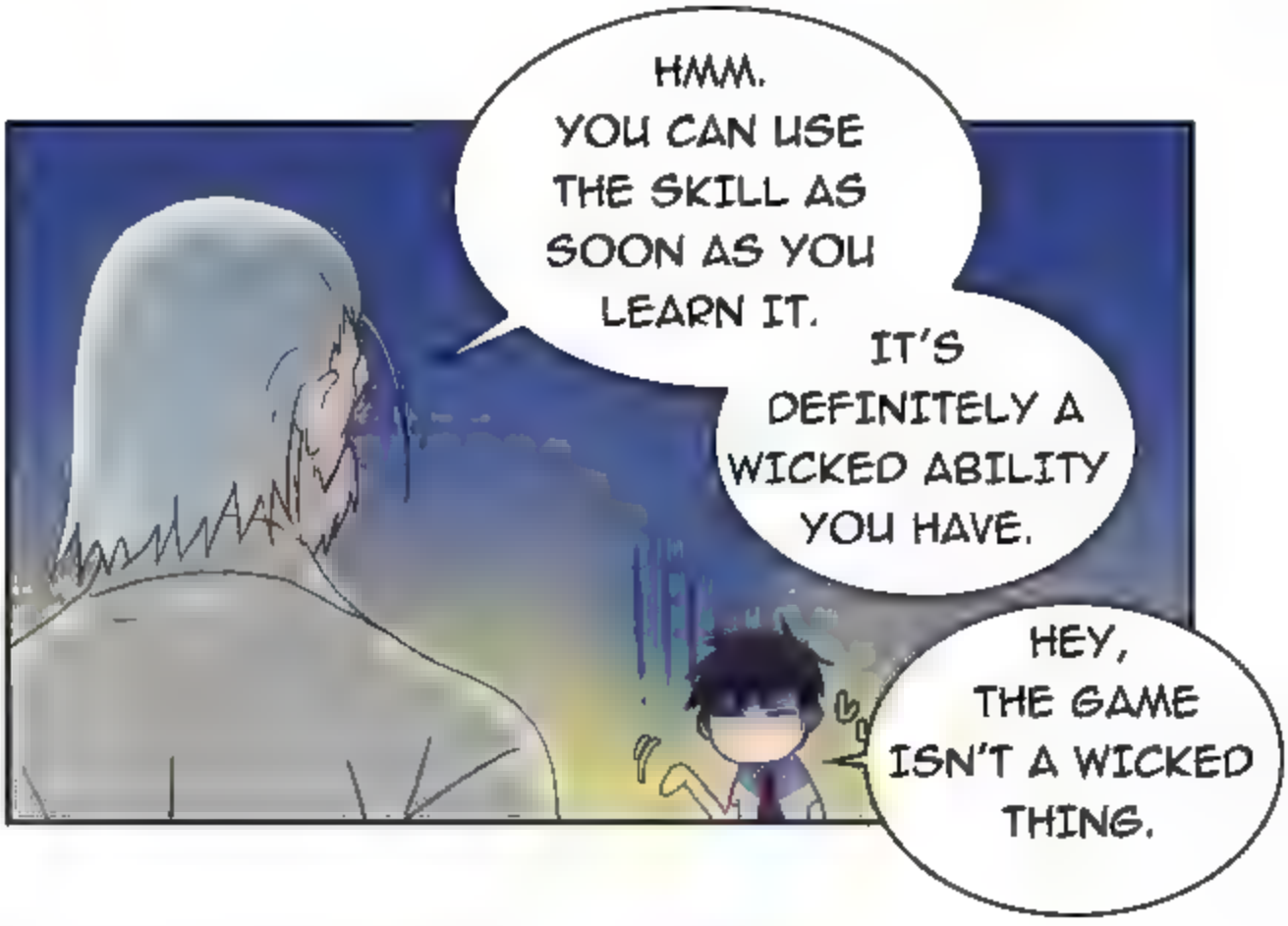
[CHEON BU'S
EXTERNAL ENERGY CONTROL FROM
THE THREE SKILLS (PASSIVE)
LV 1 EXP 0.00%]
BASIC EXTERNAL ENERGY CONTROL
DEVELOPED BY CHEON BU GUILD.
BASIC EXTERNAL ENERGY CONTROL
OF CHEON BU GUILD BASED ON
CHEON BU SCRIPTURES
IT MAKES YOUR BODY STRONGER
AND INCREASES DEFENSIVE POWER
OF THE BODY.
STRENTH UP BY 10%.
AGILITY UP BY 10%.
STAMINA UP BY 10%
STAMINA RESTORATION ABILITY
UP BY 10%.
RESTORATION OF FATIGUE UP BY 10%.

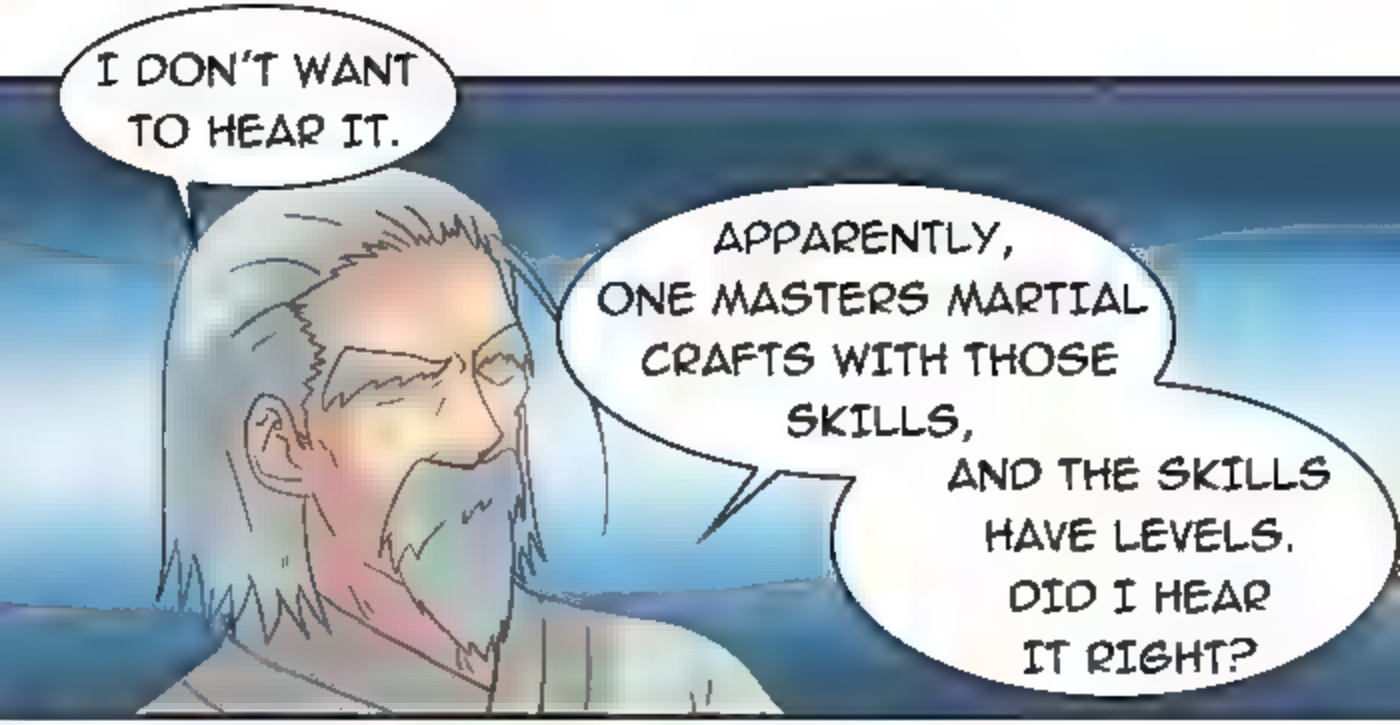
OH!
THIS IS
POWERFUL!

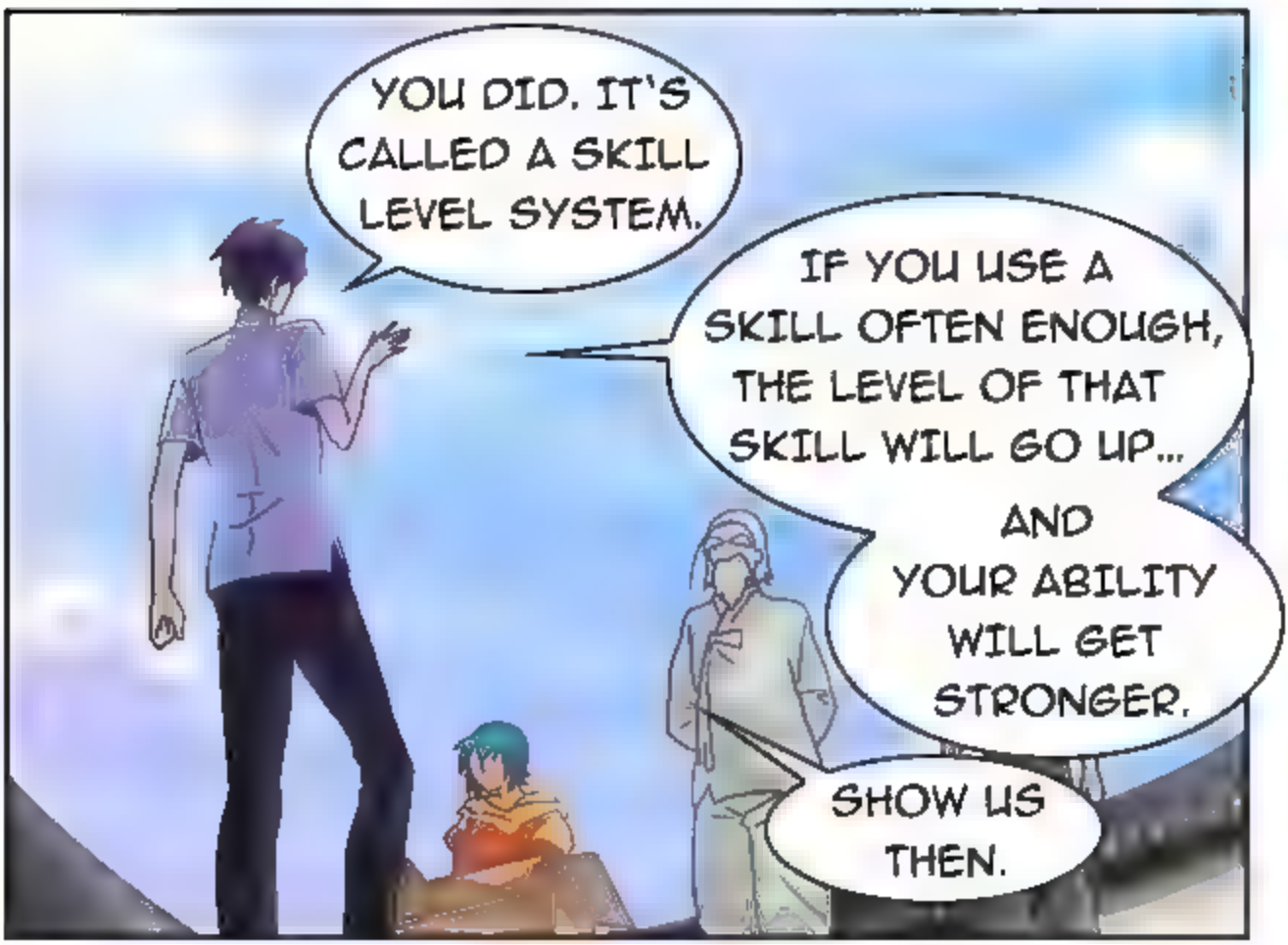
YOU'VE
GOT TO
BE KIDDING
ME!


!
TIRING
YOU HAVE MASTERED ALL THE BASIC MARTIAL CRAFTS OF THE CHEON BU GUILD.
THE EFFECT OF ALL THE SKILLS IS ACTIVATED.
STRENGTH UP BY 2 POINTS.
STAMINA UP BY 2 POINTS.
AGILITY UP BY 2 POINTS.
INTELLIGENCE UP BY 2 POINTS.
MY STATUS WENT UP A STAGGERING AMOUNT AFTER ALL THAT.

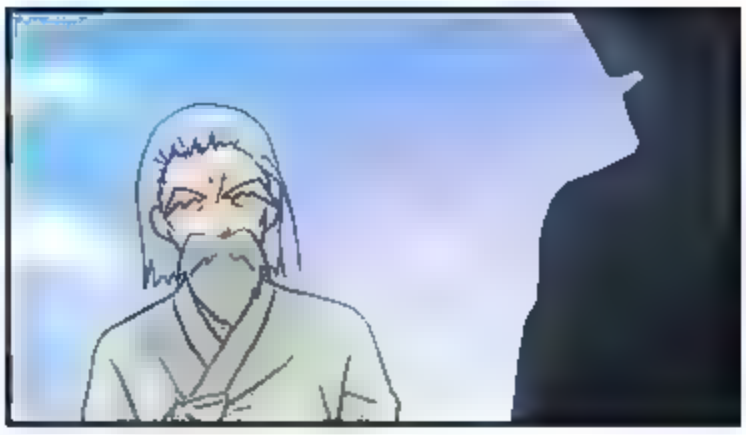

WELL, SO?
WELL... I GOT STRONGER ALL AT ONCE.

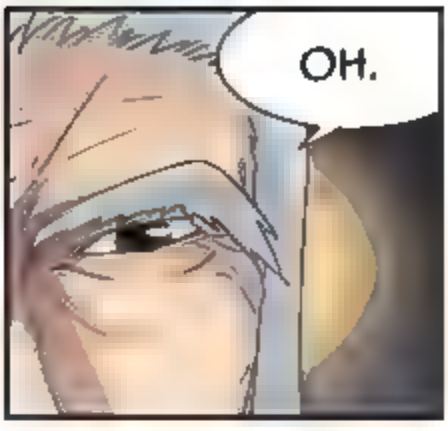

HMM. YOU CAN USE THE SKILL AS SOON AS YOU LEARN IT.
IT'S DEFINITELY A WICKED ABILITY YOU HAVE.
HEY, THE GAME ISN'T A WICKED THING.


I DON'T WANT TO HEAR IT.
APPARENTLY, ONE MASTERS MARTIAL CRAFTS WITH THOSE SKILLS,
AND THE SKILLS HAVE LEVELS. DID I HEAR IT RIGHT?

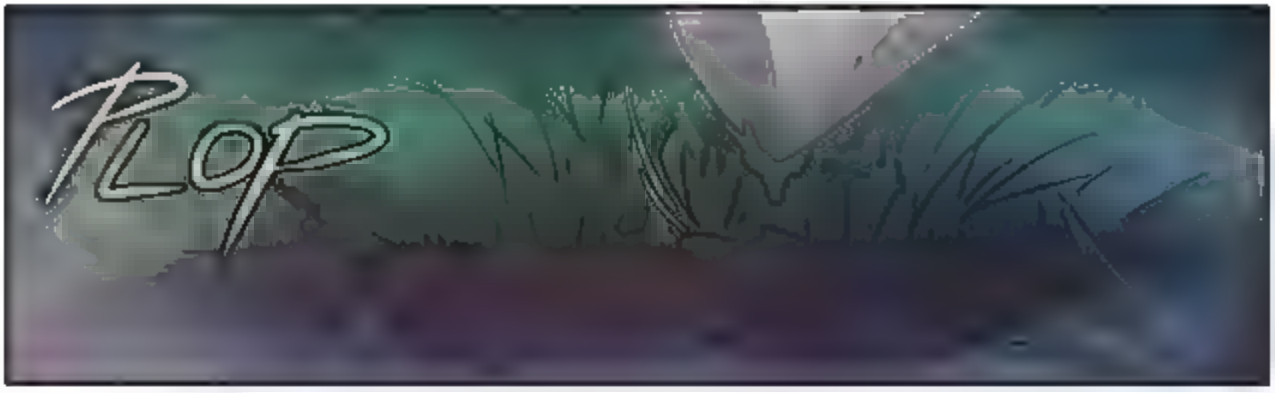

YOU DID. IT'S CALLED A SKILL LEVEL SYSTEM.
IF YOU USE A SKILL OFTEN ENOUGH, THE LEVEL OF THAT SKILL WILL GO UP...
AND YOUR ABILITY WILL GET STRONGER.
SHOW US THEN.

INVENTORY.
SSH
SWOOSH!

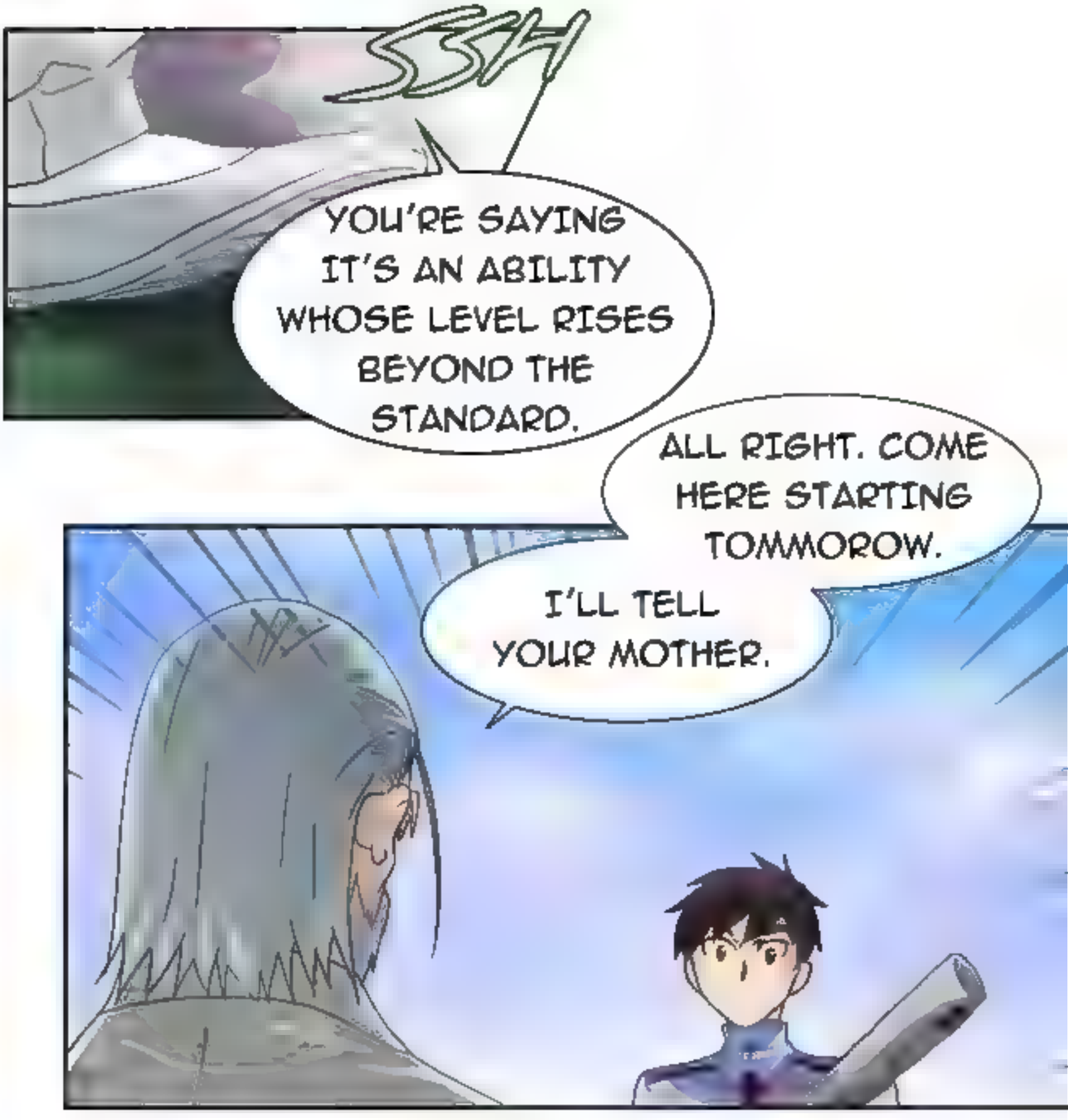



OH.

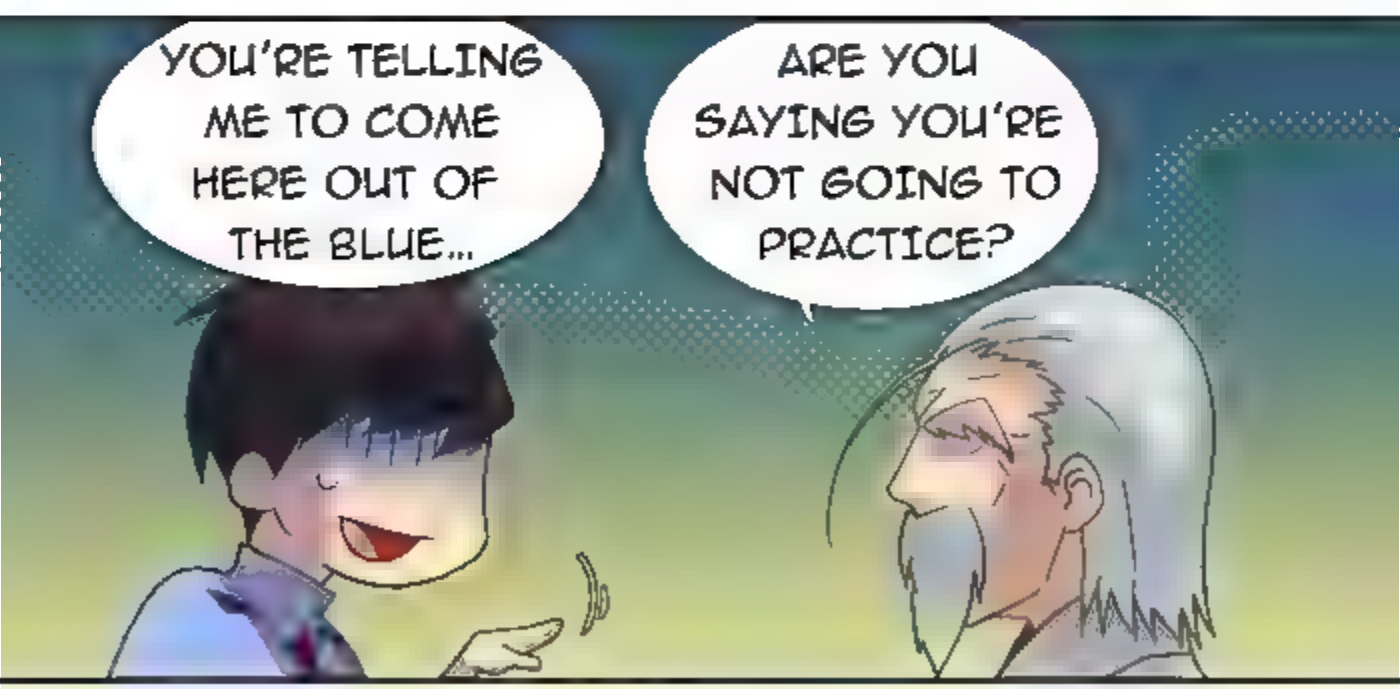
SSH
BOOM


PLOP

I HAVE THIS SKILLED WEAPON WORKMANSHIP.
THE HIGHER MY LEVEL GETS, AND THE MORE I USE IT, THE STRIKING ABILITY GETS STROGNER.
LIKE THIS ONE HERE.


SSH
YOU'RE SAYING IT'S AN ABILITY WHOSE LEVEL RISES BEYOND THE STANDARD.
ALL RIGHT. COME HERE STARTING TOMMOROW.
I'LL TELL YOUR MOTHER.

WHAT?
ABOUT WHAT? WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO TELL MY MOM?
SO, DOES MOM HAVE SPECIAL POWERS AFTER ALL?


YOU'RE TELLING ME TO COME HERE OUT OF THE BLUE...
ARE YOU SAYING YOU'RE NOT GOING TO PRACTICE?

WELL...
I DON'T THINK I NEED EXTRA PRACTICE.
MY LEVEL WILL GO UP JUST BY USING THE SKILLS
DOESN'T HE UNDERSTAND MY ABILITIES YET?

IT DOESN'T WORK THAT WAY.

EVEN IF YOU GET USED TO THE BASICS OF MARTIAL ARTS, THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU WILL JUST GET STRONGER.
EVEN IF YOU USE THOSE SKILLS-OR ANYTHING-VIGOROUSLY,
IT'S NO USE IF YOU DON'T HAVE FIELD EXPERIENCE.
THAT'S WHY YOU HAVE TO COME HERE TO PRACTICE.

THE GAMER

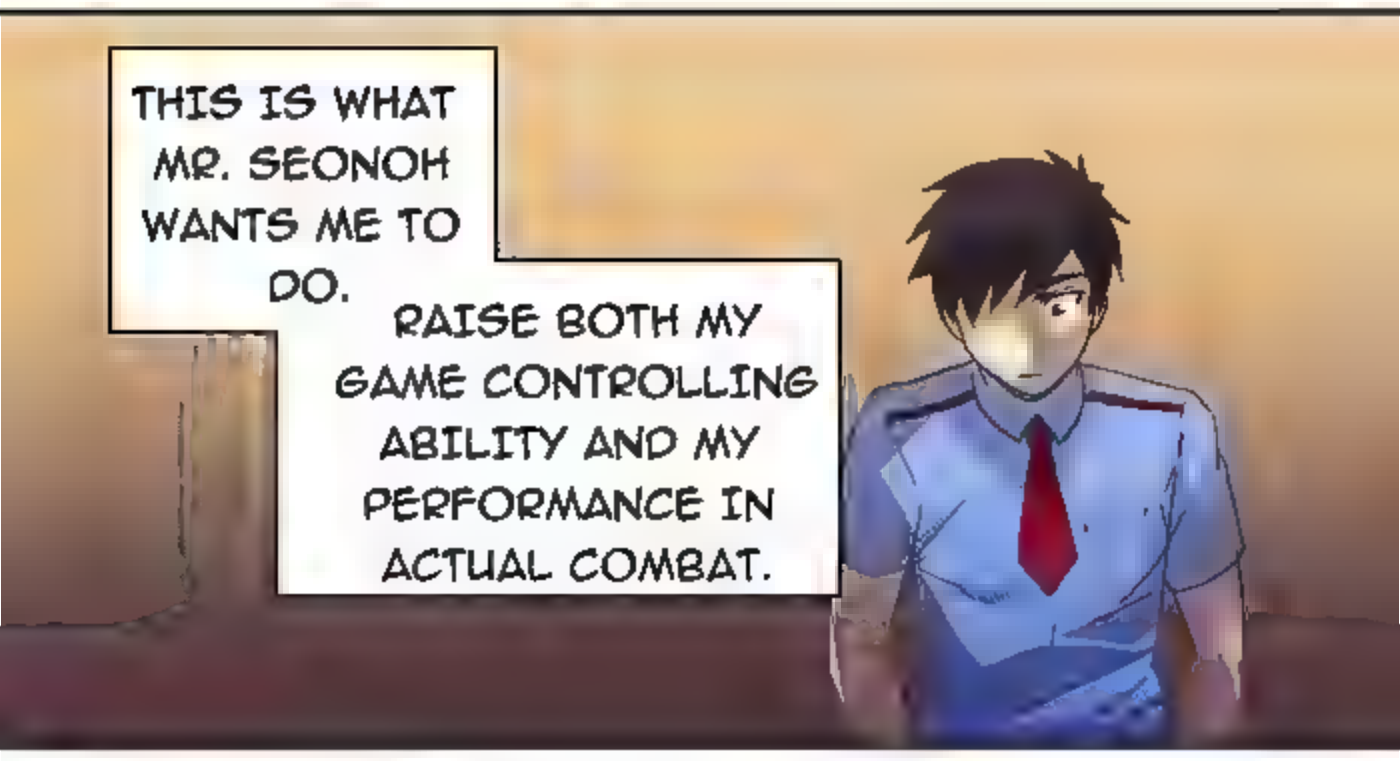
STORY BY SANGYOUNG SEONG
ILLUST BY SANG-A

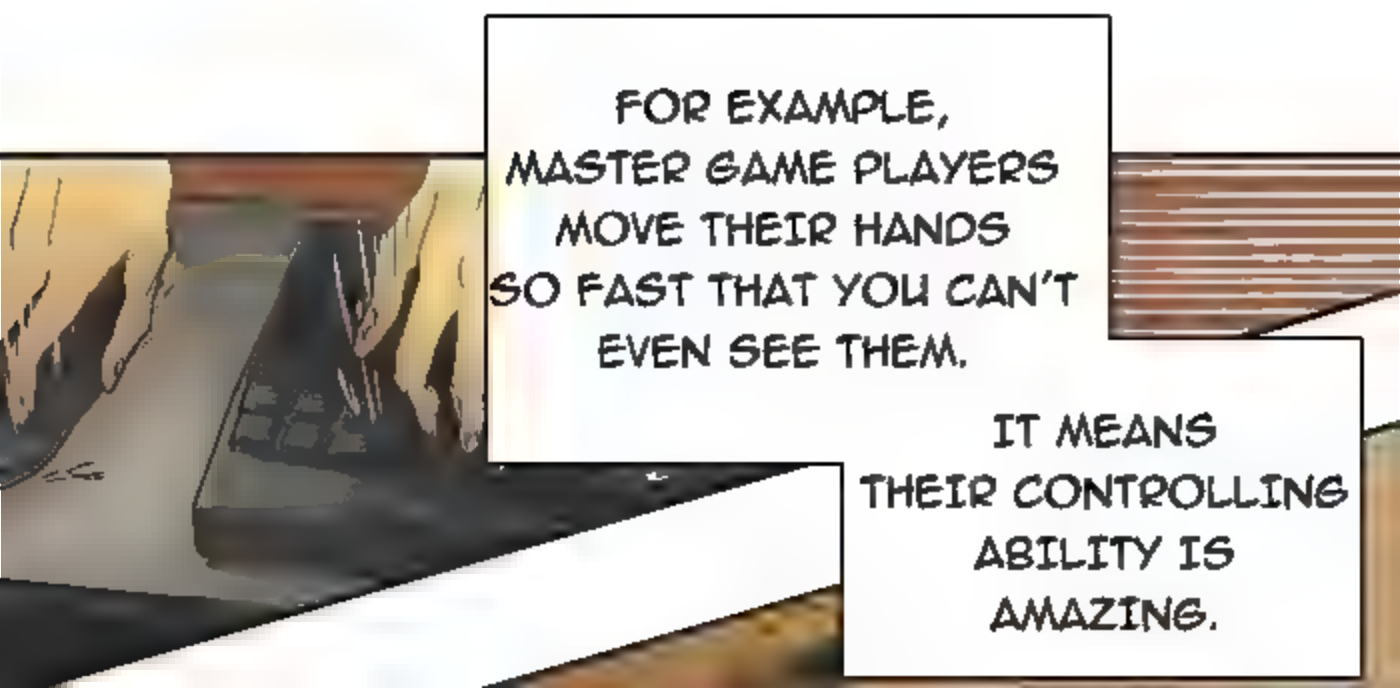
LINE Webtoon

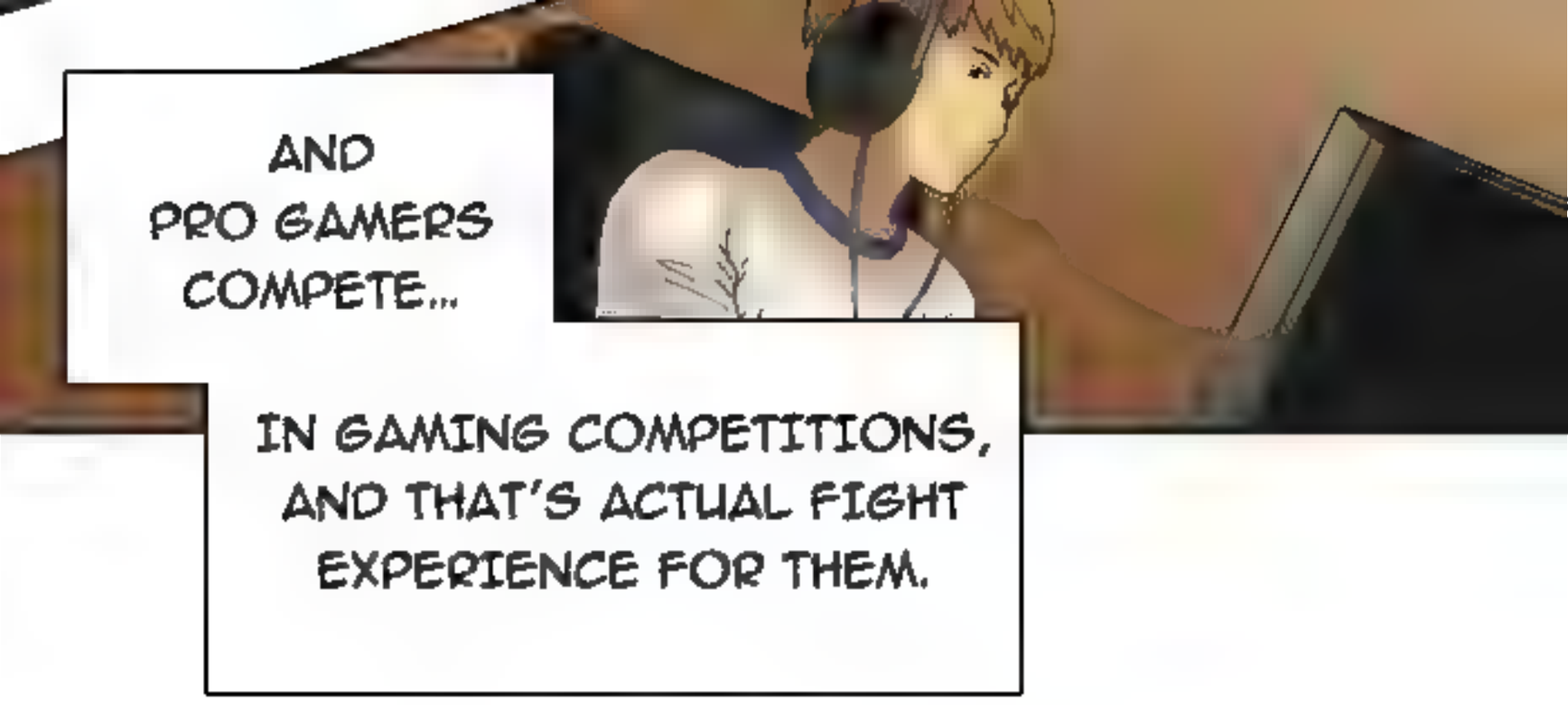
THE GAMER

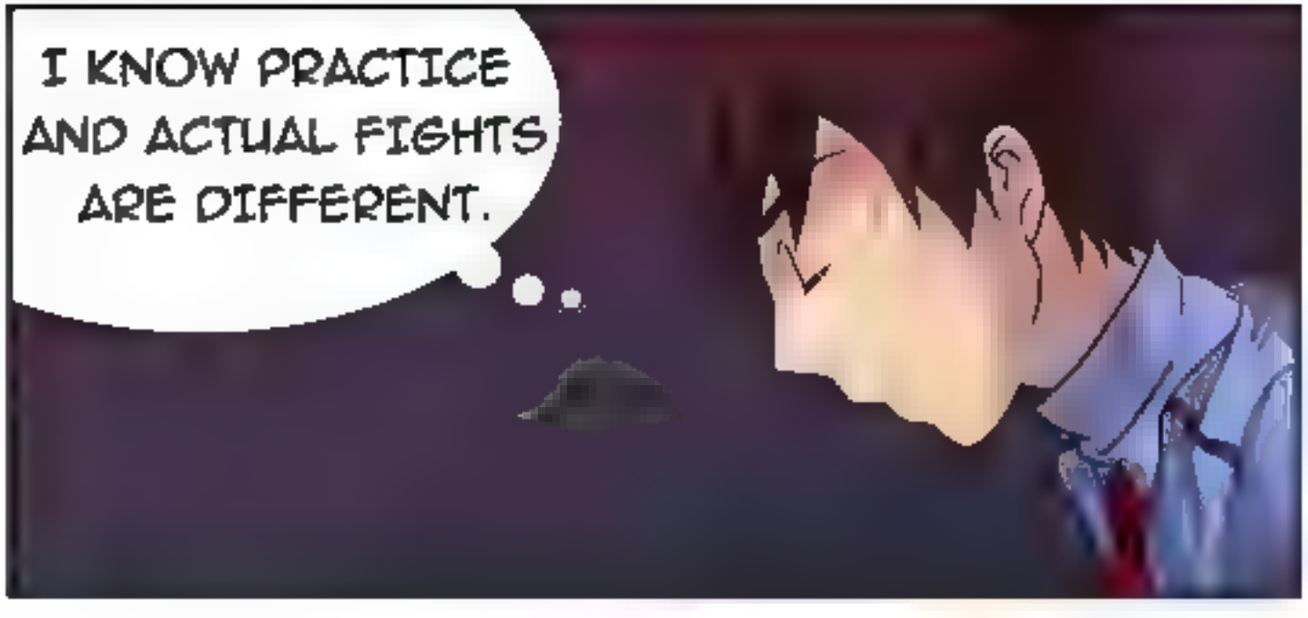
STORY BY SANGYOUNG SEONG
ILLUST BY SANG-A

CHAPTER 5
I NEED MORE SKILLS!


THIS IS WHAT MR. SEONOH WANTS ME TO DO.
RAISE BOTH MY GAME CONTROLLING ABILITY AND MY PERFORMANCE IN ACTUAL COMBAT.


FOR EXAMPLE, MASTER GAME PLAYERS MOVE THEIR HANDS SO FAST THAT YOU CAN'T EVEN SEE THEM.
IT MEANS THEIR CONTROLLING ABILITY IS AMAZING.


AND
PRO GAMERS
COMPETE...
IN GAMING COMPETITIONS,
AND THAT'S ACTUAL FIGHT
EXPERIENCE FOR THEM.


I KNOW PRACTICE
AND ACTUAL FIGHTS
ARE DIFFERENT.

SO SEONOH WANTS TO HELP ME TO PRACTICE BOTH...

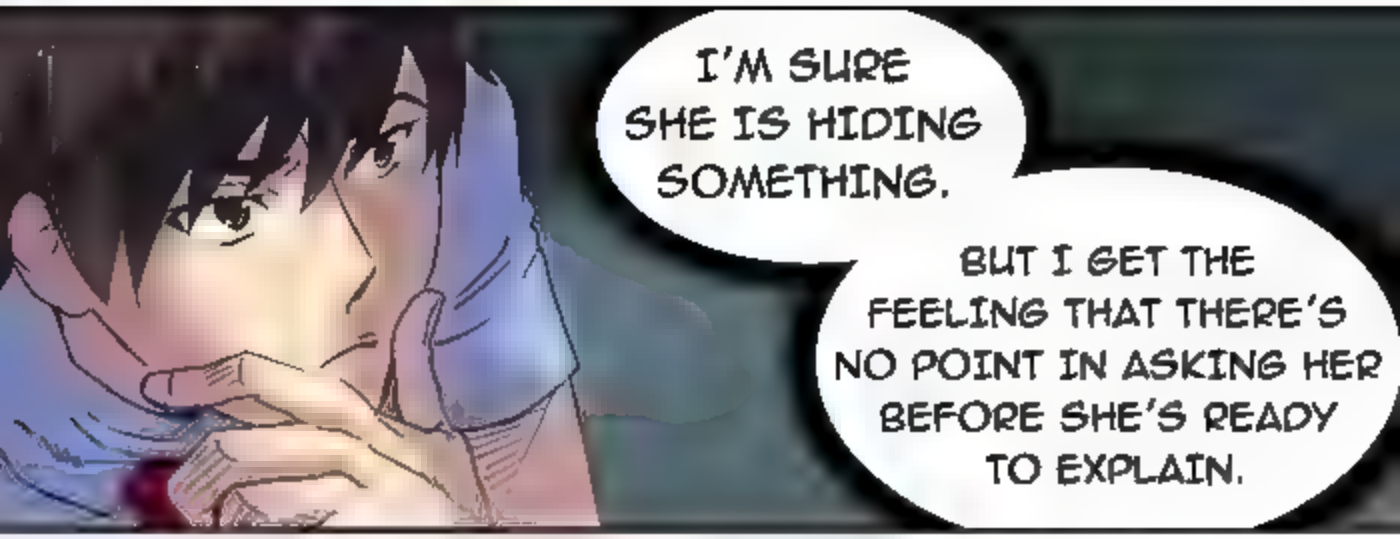
DOES THAT MEAN HE THINKS I'M PRETTY GOOD?

BY THE WAY, I WONDER WHAT MOM IS GONNA SAY ABOUT THIS...

WILL SHE ALLOW ME TO PRACTICE AT SEONIL'S GYM?

THERE'S ONE THING I'M DYING TO KNOW.

WHAT LEVEL IS SHE?
<????>
LV?? JEONGSOOK H.

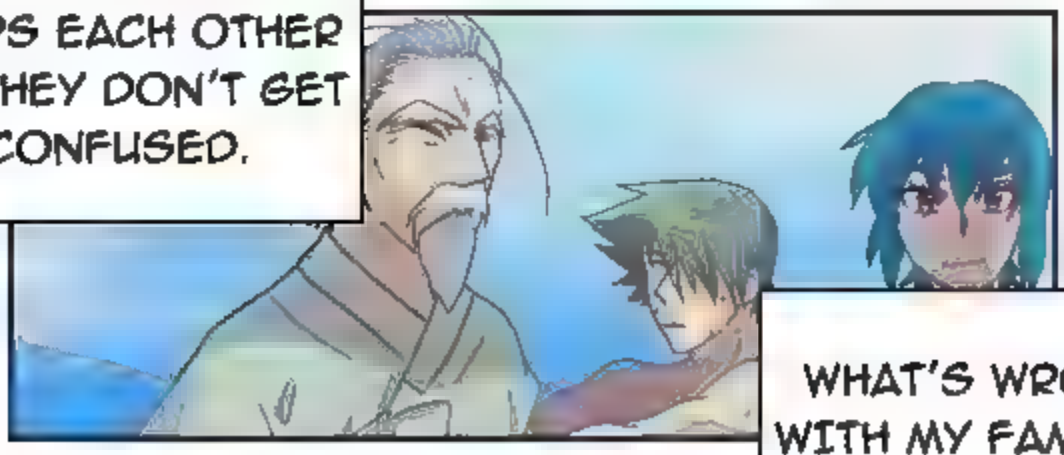

I'M SURE SHE IS HIDING SOMETHING.
BUT I GET THE FEELING THAT THERE'S NO POINT IN ASKING HER BEFORE SHE'S READY TO EXPLAIN.

SHOULD I JUST ASK?
UGH, I'M SO CONFUSED!

TO BE HONEST, I'D FEEL BETRAYED...

...IF SHE WAS A SPECIAL PERSON AND KEPT IT SECRET EVEN FROM HER OWN SON.

SEONIL'S FAMILY HELPS EACH OTHER SO THEY DON'T GET CONFUSED.



WHAT'S WRONG WITH MY FAMILY?

MY DAD IS KIND OF A MYSTERIOUS MAN, TOO.

MOM SAID HE'S STAYING IN THE U.S. FOR WORK. IS HE SPECIAL, TOO?

HMM

OK, WELL...

LET'S KEEP PRETENDING I'M NORMAL AND SEE HOW IT GOES.

GULP

CLICK

I'M HOME.
KREEN

MOM?
PEEP
...HUH?

[I'M GOING TO THE GYM AND I'LL BE LATE. GET SOME FOOD FOR YOURSELF. - MOM]...?
I KNOW SHE WORKS OUT AT A GYM,
BUT SHE ALWAYS COMES BACK BEFORE I DO...

USUALLY I'D LIKE THIS SITUATION...
BUT WHY... ...TONIGHT?

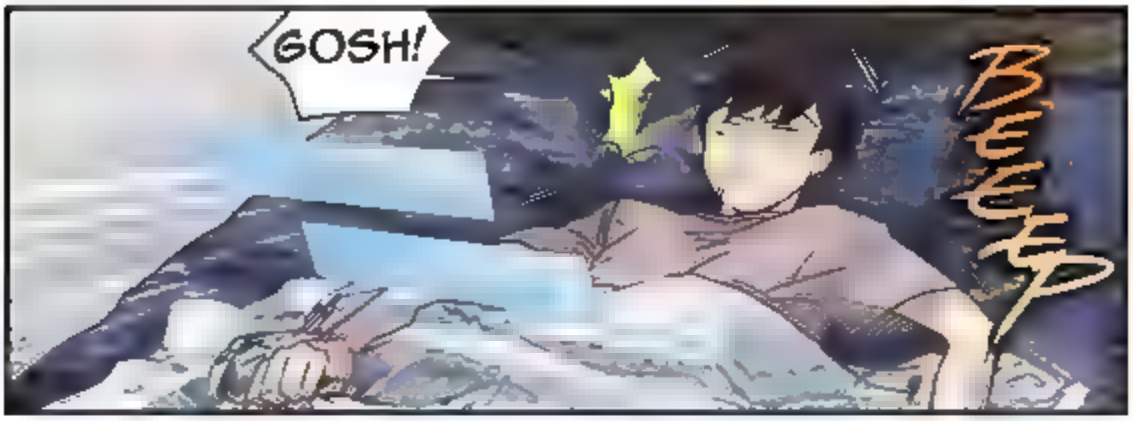
I'M SURE SHE'S HIDING SOMETHING...

BEEP

HP AND MP ARE FULLY RECOVERED
AS YOU SLEPT WELL IN YOUR BED.

ALL THE PHYSICAL CONDITIONS
ARE FULLY RECOVERED
AS YOU SLEPT WELL IN YOUR BED.

BLEEP


GOSH!
BEEEP

I SHOULD CLOSE THESE SCREENS EVERY MORNING...
JIHAN, WAKE UP!
I'M UP!
MOM!

BREAKFAST!

TAP

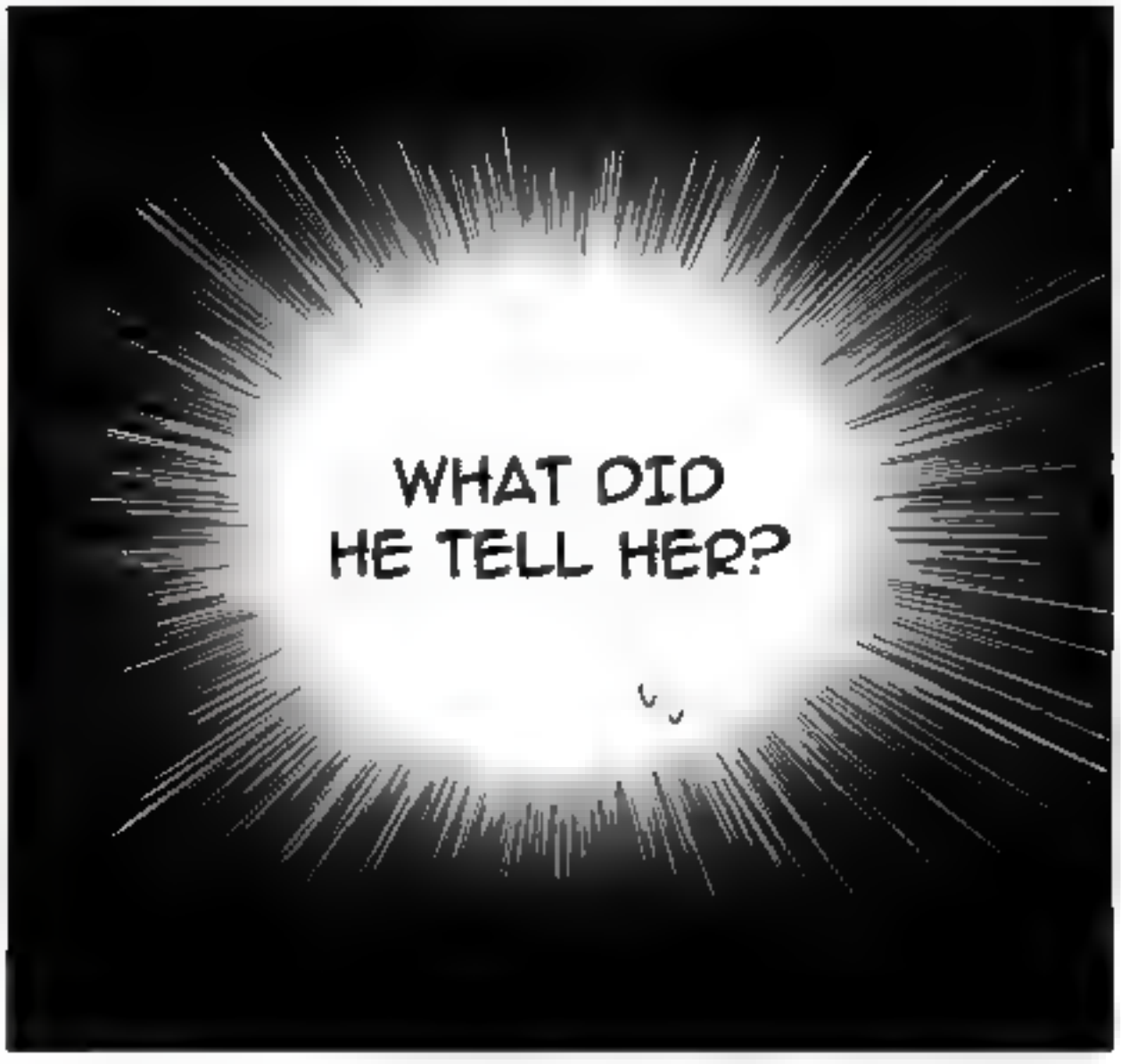
I 'D RATHER GO BACK TO BED...

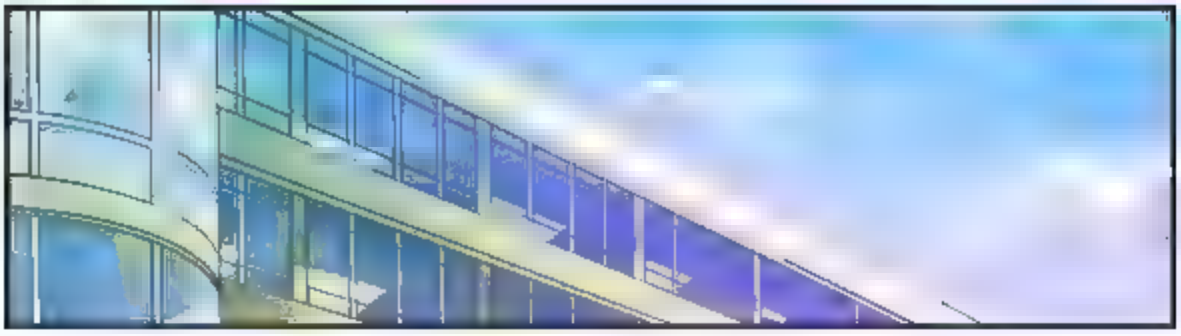
WHAT'S WRONG?
HUH? NO, IT'S NOTHING.

AH...

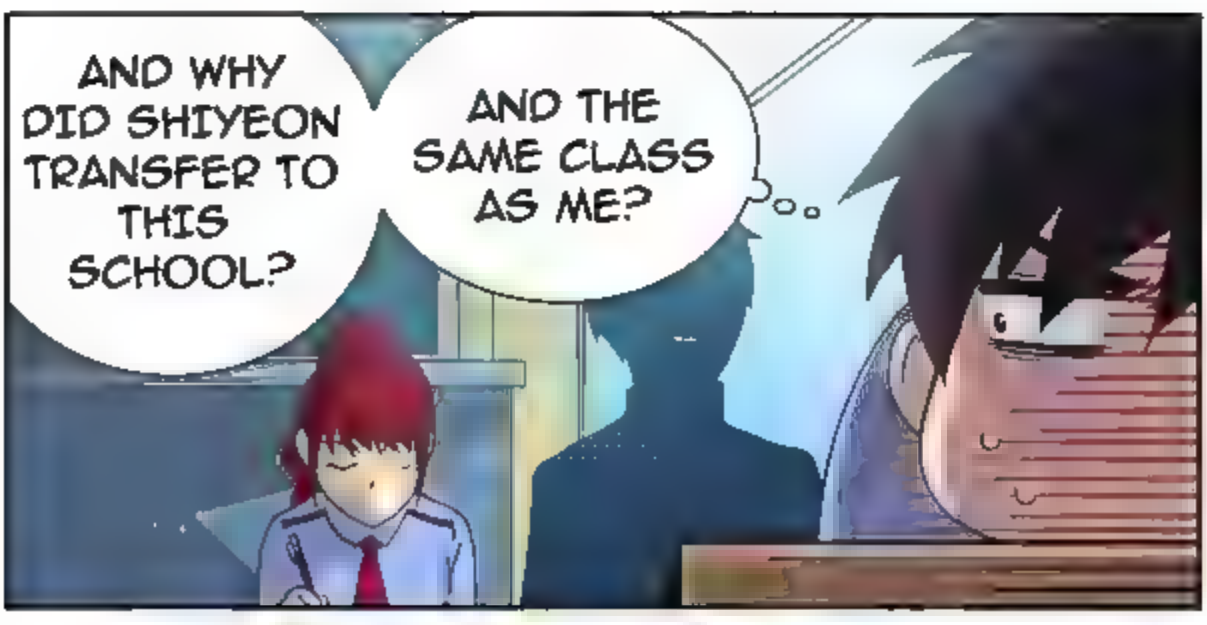
I HEARD YOU'LL BE STUDYING AT SEONIL'S?

HUH?


WHAT DID
HE TELL HER?



I'M SO CONFUSED.....
WHAT IS SHE HIDING FROM ME...


AND WHY DID SHIYEON TRANSFER TO THIS SCHOOL?
AND THE SAME CLASS AS ME?

AND SEONGON...
I KNOW HE'S UP TO SOMETHING, I SAW WHAT HAPPENED TO SEONIL.
STRUGGLE
THERE'S SO MUCH THAT I DON'T UNDERSTAND!
STRUGGLE

LET'S START.
ATTENTION! BOW!

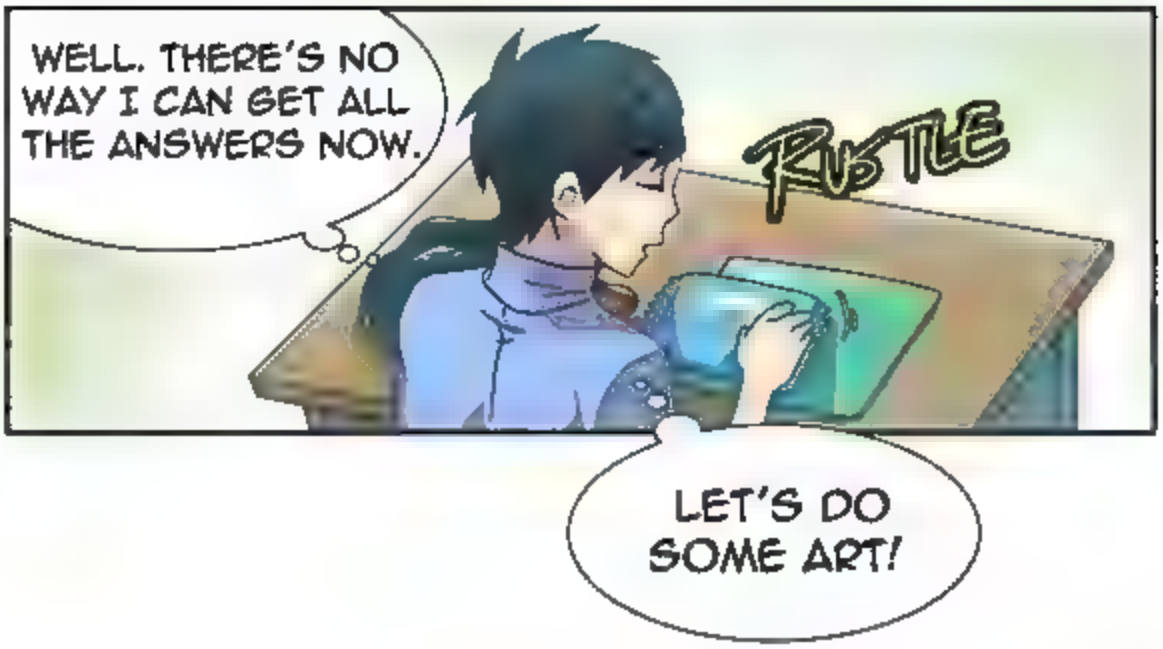
GOOD MORNING!

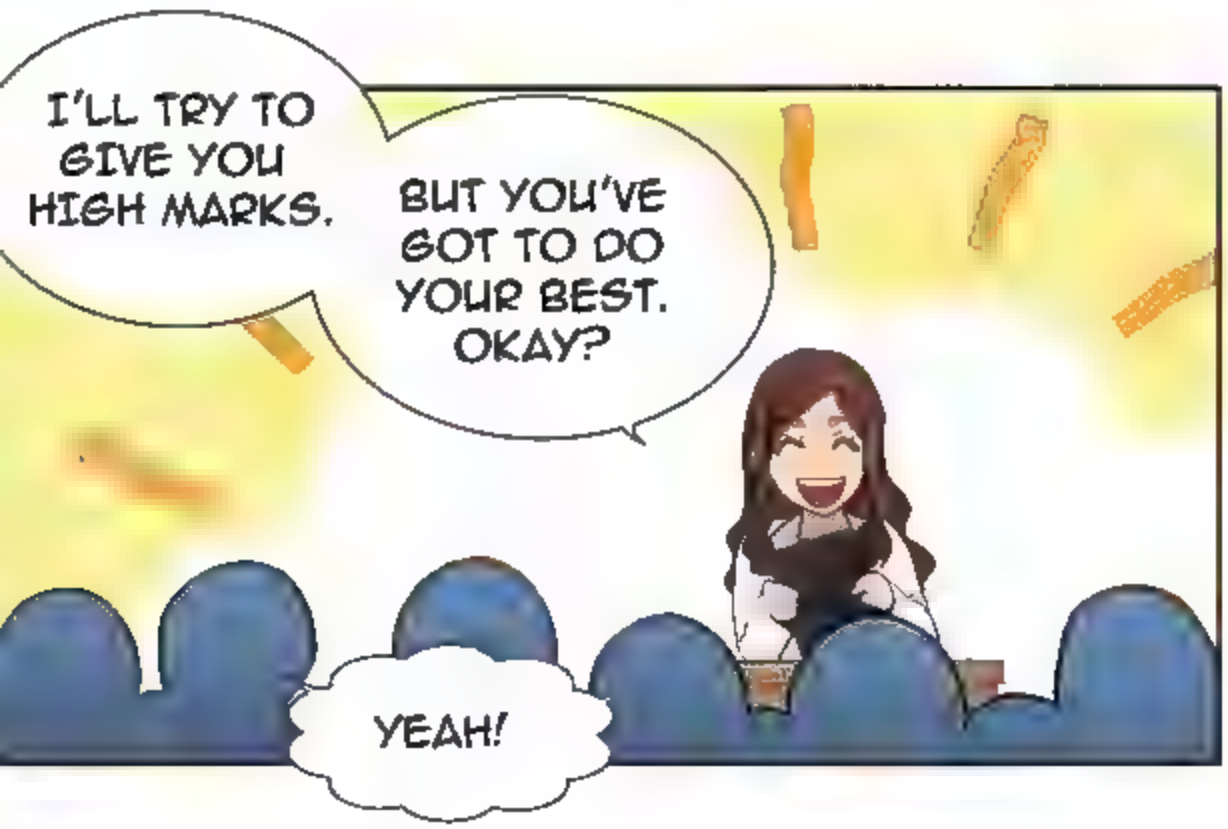
YOU ALL REMEMBER WE'RE MAKING A DOLL OUT OF CLAY, RIGHT?

I'LL BE GRADING YOUR WORK TODAY, SO CONCENTRATE. DID EVERYONE UNDERSTAND?

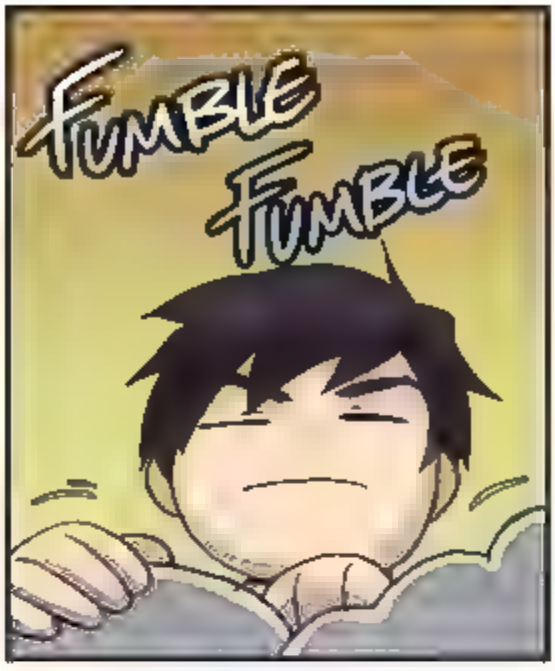
WE DID!

ART TEACHER : MIYE LEE

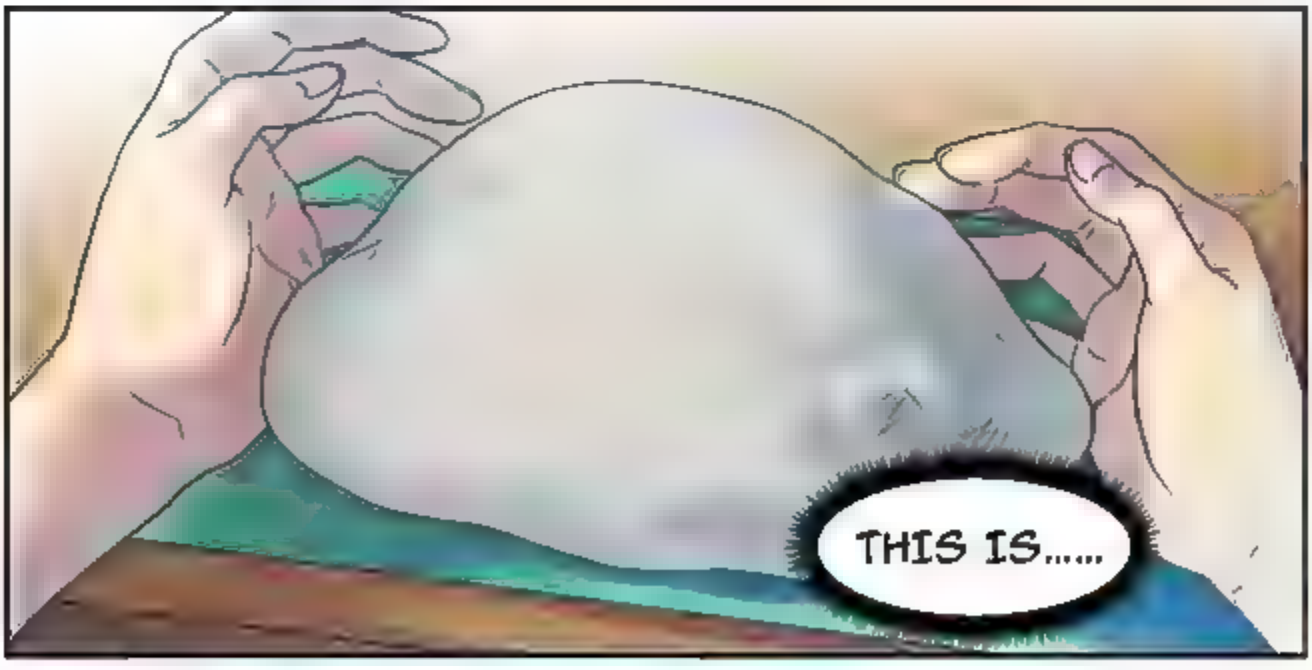

WELL. THERE'S NO WAY I CAN GET ALL THE ANSWERS NOW.
RUSTLE
LET'S DO SOME ART!

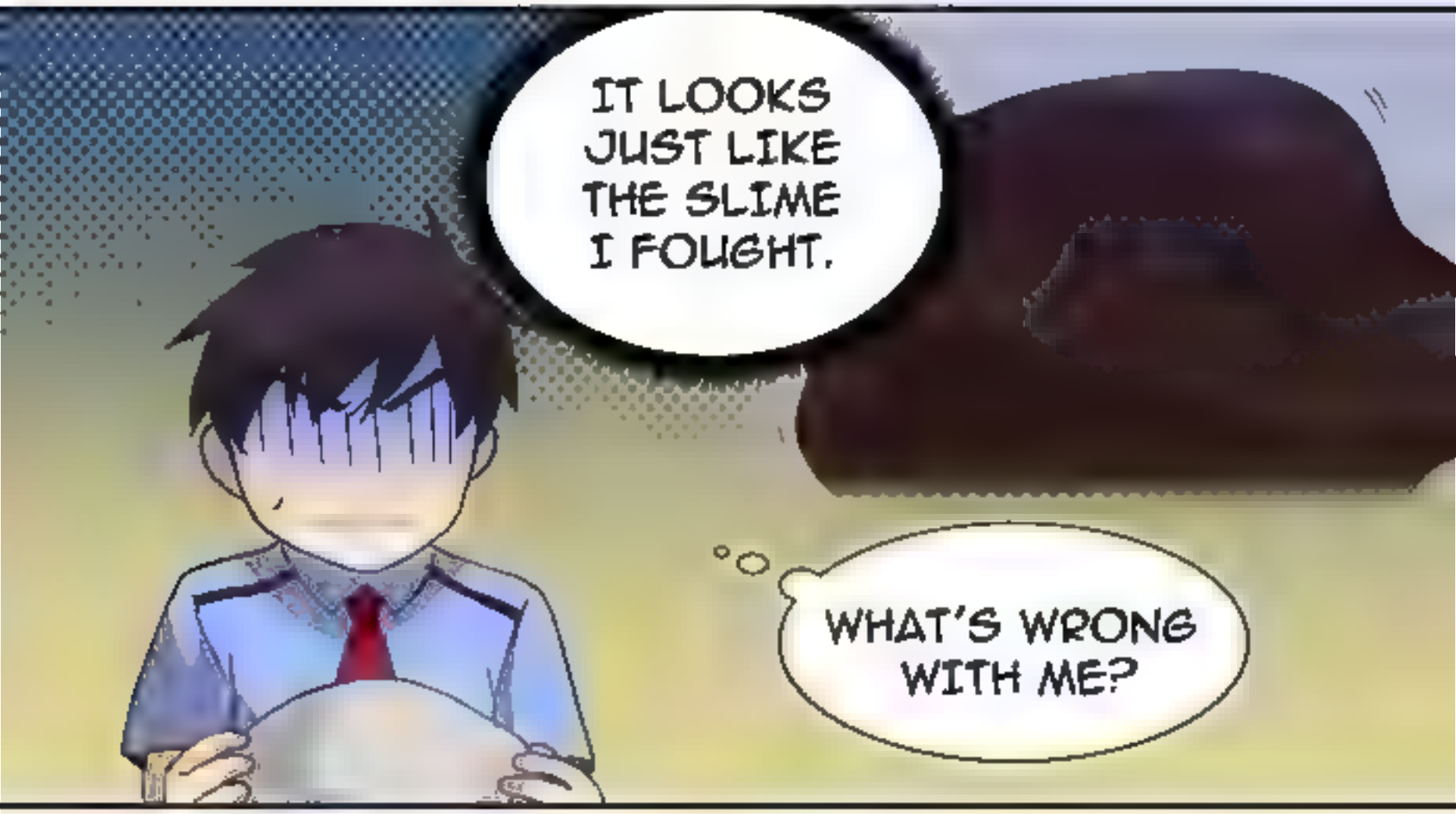

I'LL TRY TO GIVE YOU HIGH MARKS.
BUT YOU'VE GOT TO DO YOUR BEST. OKAY?
YEAH!

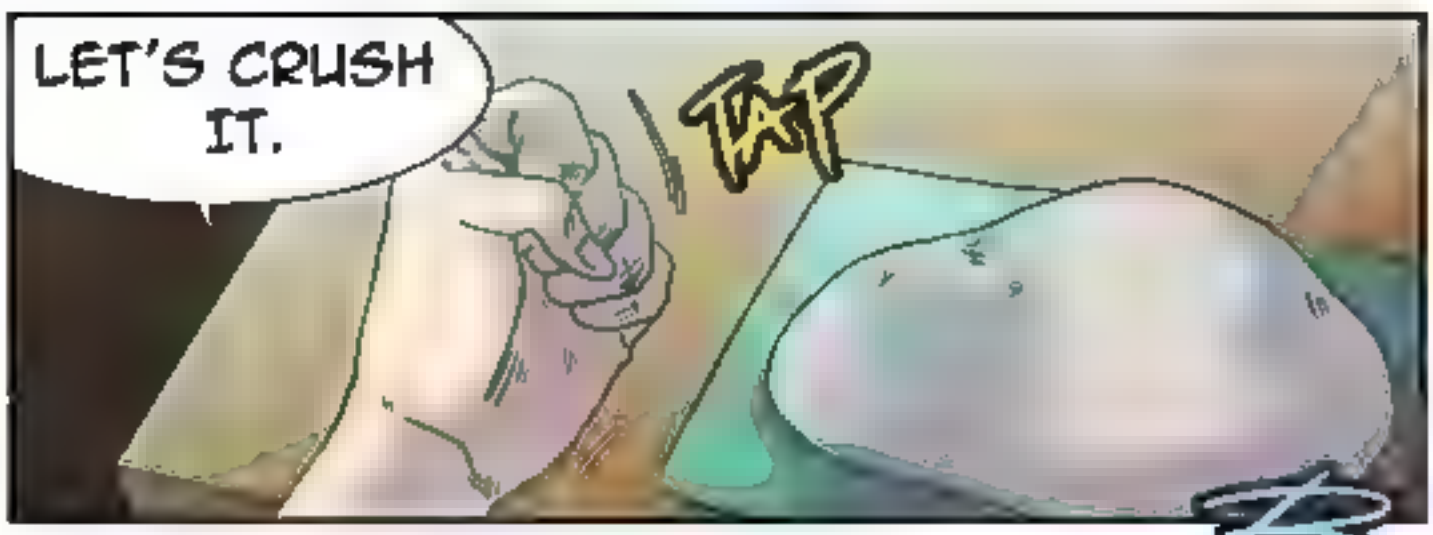
YEAH...
FUMBLE


FUMBLE
FUMBLE

UH?


THIS IS.....


IT LOOKS JUST LIKE THE SLIME I FOUGHT.
WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME?


LET'S CRUSH IT.
TAP

[MANUFACTURING] SKILL CREATED.

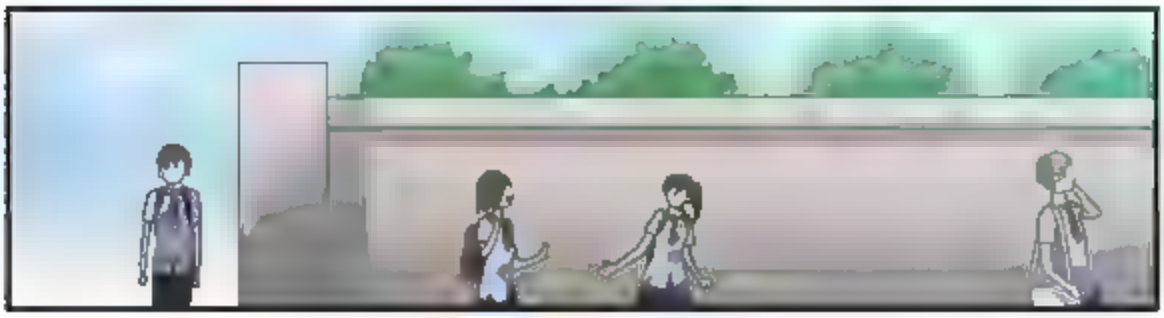
[MANUFACTURING] SKILL CREATED.

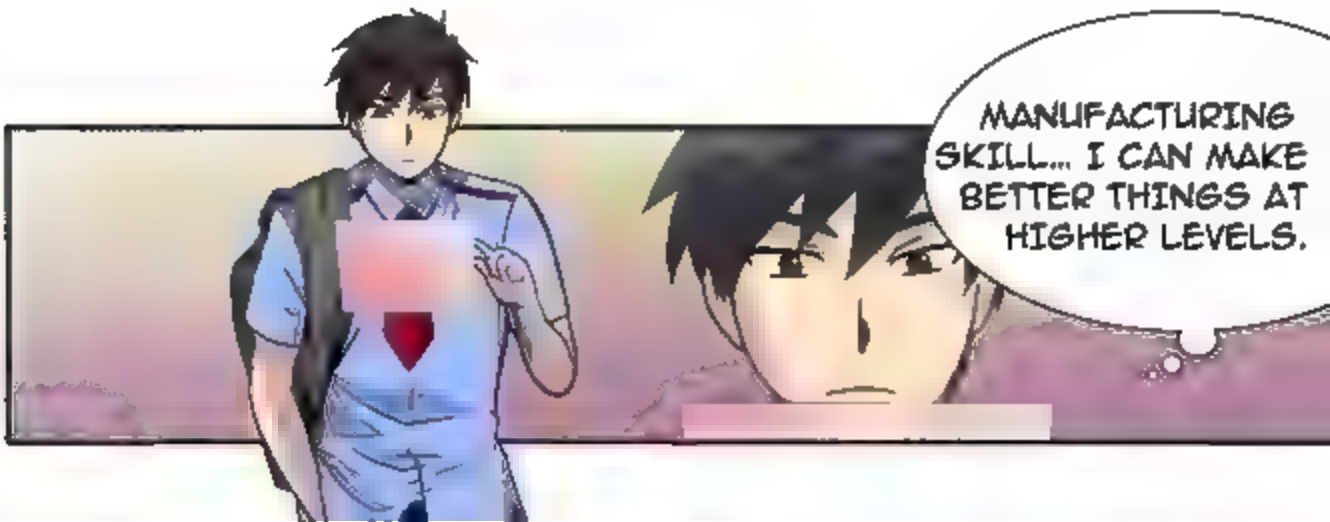
[MANUFACTURING
(ACTIVE) LV 1 EXP: 5.12%]
A BUILDING SKILL.
THE HIGHER YOUR LEVEL,
THE BETTER GOODS
YOU CAN MAKE.
REQUIRED BLUEPRINT: 1
PROBABILITY FAILURE 50%

[REQUIRED BLUEPRINT -
RECIPE: 1]

[CLAY SLIME - LEVEL: NORMAL]
A SLIME MONSTER MADE
OUT OF CLAY.
MATERIAL: CLAY

THE GAMER




MANUFACTURING SKILL... I CAN MAKE BETTER THINGS AT HIGHER LEVELS.

THERE'S A MANUFACTURING SKILL IN GAMES.

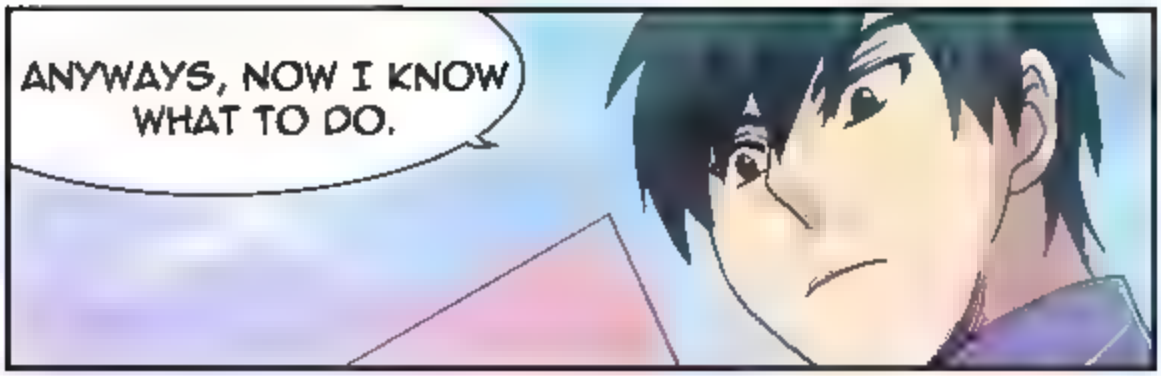
YOU CAN MANUFACTURE THINGS BY USING SOME MATERIALS AND ITEMS.

BUT EACH GAME HAS ITS OWN RULES.

IN MY CASE,
I THINK ALL I NEED
TO MAKE SOMETHING
IS THIS SKILL.

[CLAY SLIME - LEVEL: NORMAL]
CLAY SLIME MADE BY
INEXPERIENCED MANUFACTURER
JIHAN HAN.
IT HAS NO ARTISTIC VALUE
AND IT IS USELESS.

I DON'T
LIKE THIS.



I NEED MORE SKILLS!

NOT ACTIVE SKILLS LIKE THIS ONE, BUT PASSIVE SKILLS!

ACTIVE SKILLS.
YOU USE THESE SKILLS DIRECTLY.
IT MEANS YOU'LL SPEND YOUR MP AND TIME WHILE USING THEM.
PASSIVE SKILLS.
THEY'RE ALWAYS TURNED ON
SO, YOU DON'T LOSE ANY MP WHILE USING PASSIVE SKILLS.
A MASS OF PASSIVE SKILLS! THAT'S WHAT I NEED NOW.

WHY? BECAUSE...
...I AM WEAK.
I'M STILL WEAK.

I HAVEN'T TRAINED MYSELF LIKE SEONIL,
AND I HAVE TO BUILD UP MY STRENGTH UNLIKE OTHER INNATE FIGHTERS.
MY ACHILLES' HEEL IS THAT...
I NEED REPEATED PRACTICE!

INCREASING LEVELS AND EXPERIENCE IS WHAT I NEED TO DO.

HOW DO I INCREASE THEM AS FAST AS I CAN? THE ANSWER IS...

PASSIVE SKILLS!

WITH PASSIVE SKILLS, EXPERIENCE INCREASES AUTOMATICALLY,

AND THEY ARE ALWAYS WORKING FOR YOU

SO IF I LEARN MANY PASSIVE SKILLS AND PRACTICE THEM FIRST,

I CAN GET STRONG, FASTER EVEN THOUGH I DON'T HAVE MANY ACTIVE SKILLS

[CHEON BU'S EXTERNAL ENERGY CONTROL
FROM THE THREE SKILLS (PASSIVE/
Lv.1 EXP. 0.00%]
BASIC EXTERNAL ENERGY CONTROL
DEVELOPED BY CHEON BU GUILD
IT MAKES YOUR BODY
STRONGER AND
INCREASES DEFENSIVE
POWER OF THE BODY
STRENGTH UP BY 10%
AGILITY UP BY 10%
STAMINA UP BY 10%
STAMINA RESTORATION
ABILITY UP BY 10%
RESTORATION OF
FATIGUE UP BY 10%

ALL OF MY ABILITIES INCREASED BY 10% FROM THE PASSIVE SKILL, CHEONBU'S EXTERNAL ENERGY CONTROL.

AND I HAVE OTHER PASSIVE SKILLS AS WELL,. SO I'M ABOUT 30% STRONGER THAN I SHOULD BE.

[PRINCIPLE OF CHEON BU'S THREE SKILLS (PASSIVE & ACTIVE) LV 1 EXP 0.00%)]
BASIC ENERGY PRINCIPLE OF THE CHEON BU GUILD
BY DEVELOPING THESE TECHNIQUES, LIMITS CAN BE OVERCOME
POINT TOTALS RISE EXPONENTIALLY BASED ON THE AMOUNT OF ENERGY USED BY TRAINING AND GAINING EXPERIENCE
USING THE ENERGY POINT TOTALS CAN BE RAISED WITHOUT A CAP

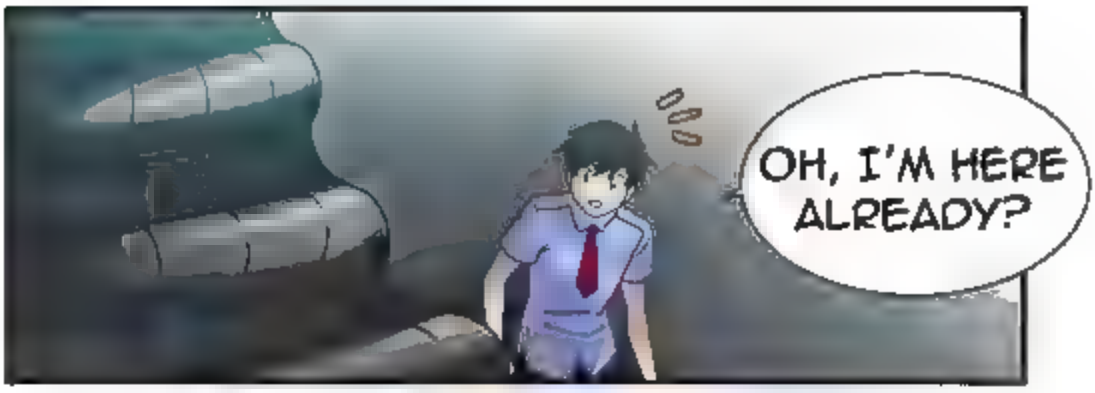
IN PASSIVE STATE, POWER UP BY 10%
IN PASSIVE STATE, AGILITY UP BY 0%
IN PASSIVE STATE, STRENGTH UP BY 10%
IN PASSIVE STATE, MEMORY UP BY 10%
IN PASSIVE STATE, RESTORATION ABILITY UP BY 10%
IN ACTIVE STATE, POWER UP BY AN EXTRA 30%.
IN ACTIVE STATE AGILITY UP BY AN EXTRA 30%
IN PASSIVE STATE ENERGY ATTACK IS POSSIBLE

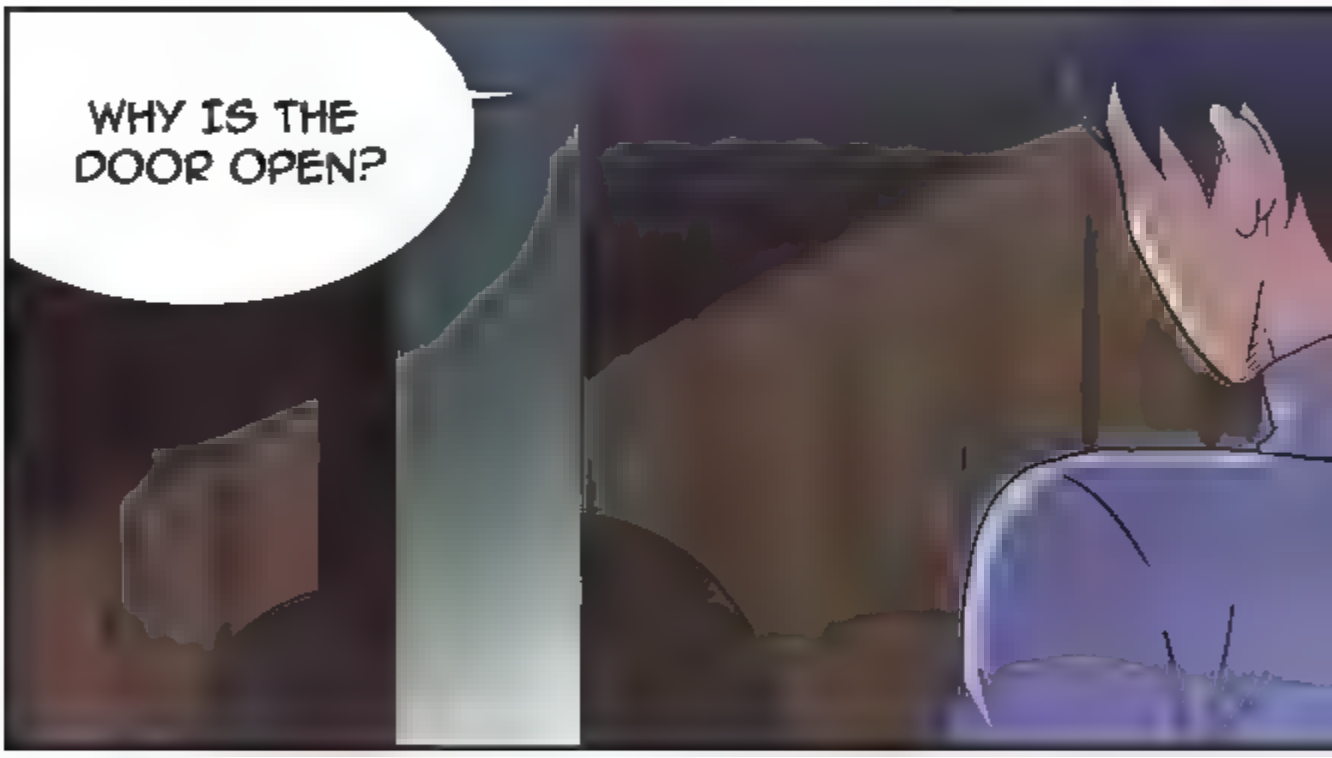
THERE ARE LIMITATIONS TO LEARNING INNER ENERGY CONTROL.

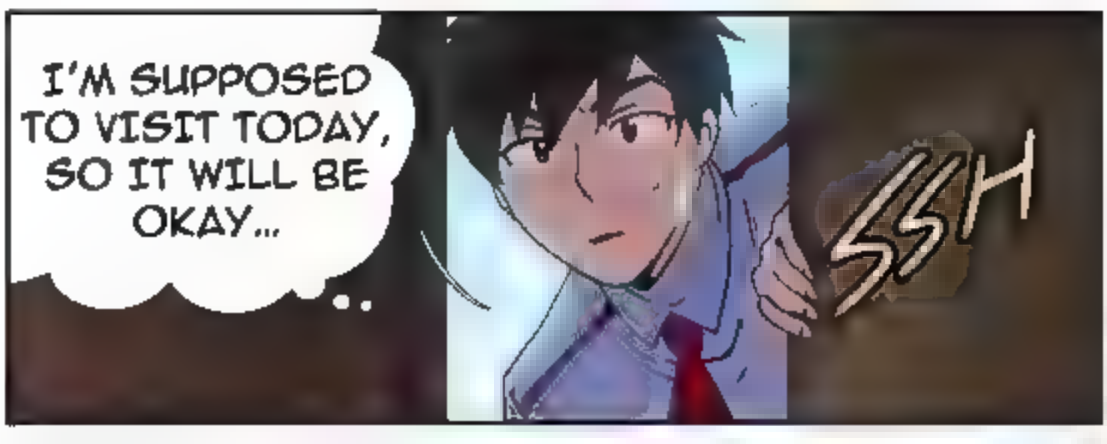
BUT EXTERNAL ENERGY CONTROL MIGHT HAVE NO LIMITS.

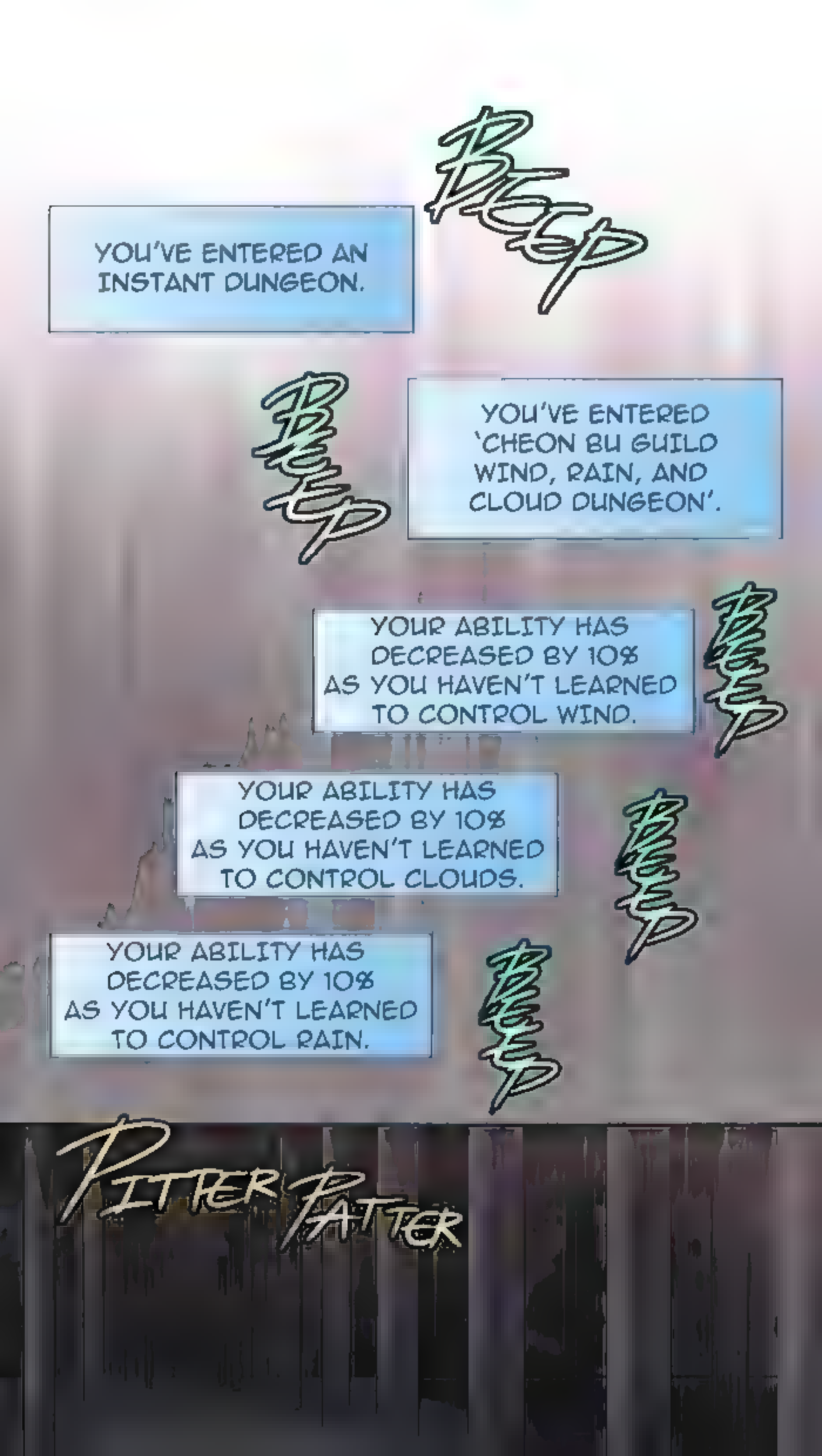
GRIN

IF I LEARN MORE, I CAN GET STRONGER!


OH, I'M HERE ALREADY?


WHY IS THE DOOR OPEN?


I'M SUPPOSED TO VISIT TODAY, SO IT WILL BE OKAY...
SSH

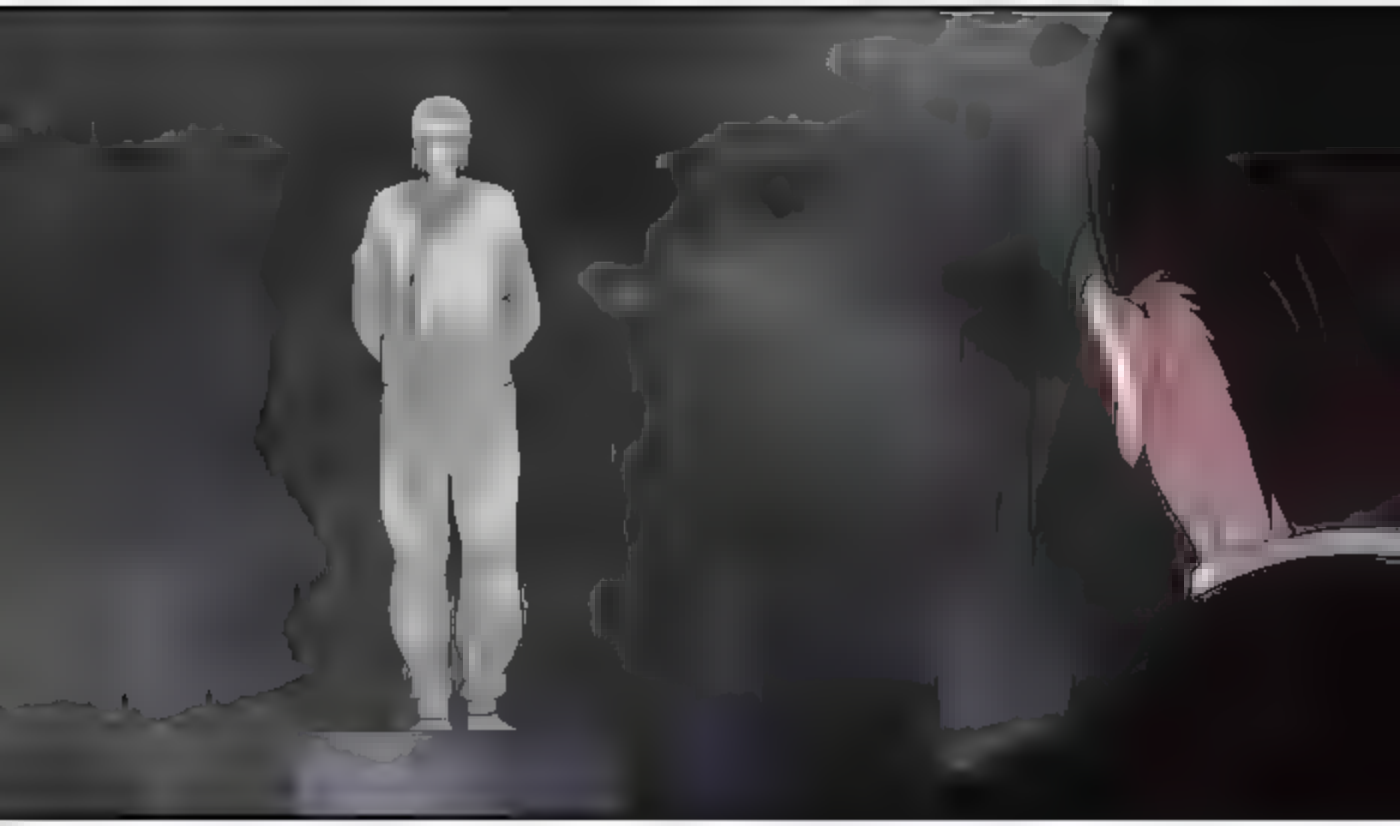

YOU'VE ENTERED AN INSTANT DUNGEON.
BEEP
BEEP
YOU'VE ENTERED 'CHEON BU GUILD WIND, RAIN, AND CLOUD DUNGEON'.
YOUR ABILITY HAS DECREASED BY 10% AS YOU HAVEN'T LEARNED TO CONTROL WIND.
BEEP
YOUR ABILITY HAS DECREASED BY 10% AS YOU HAVEN'T LEARNED TO CONTROL CLOUDS.
BEEP
YOUR ABILITY HAS DECREASED BY 10% AS YOU HAVEN'T LEARNED TO CONTROL RAIN.
BEEP
PITTER PATTER

W-WHAT?

WHAT'S GOING ON?

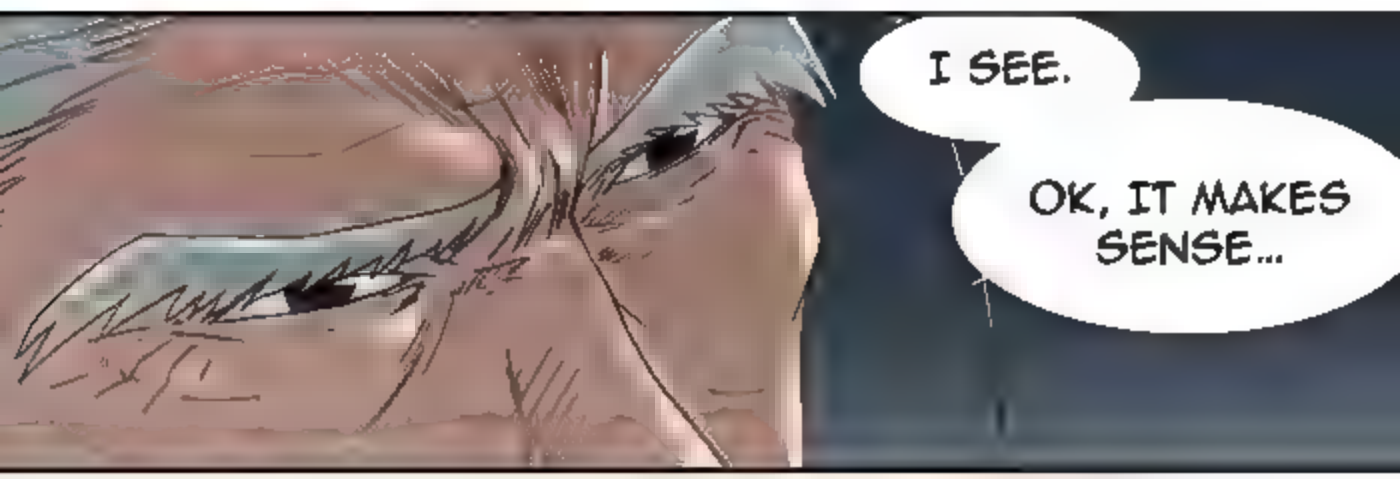
SEONGON HWAN!

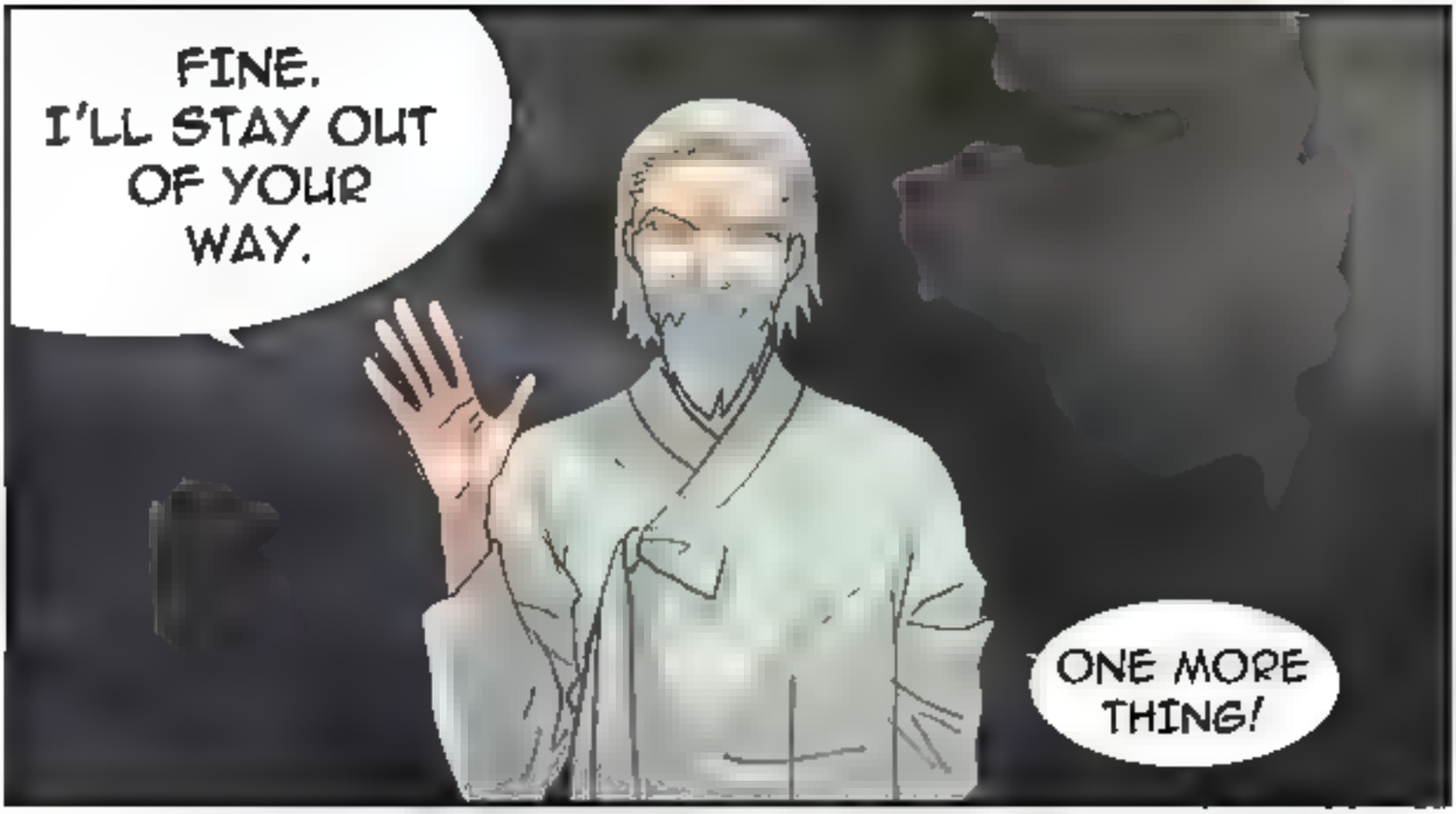
NOW YOU KNOW MY PLAN.



SEONGON, I UNDERSTAND YOUR SITUATION.
BUT IT'LL RUIN THE FERTILITY OF THE LAND.
HOW ARE YOU GOING TO DO THAT?

THAT'S WHY I'M PROPOSING THIS.

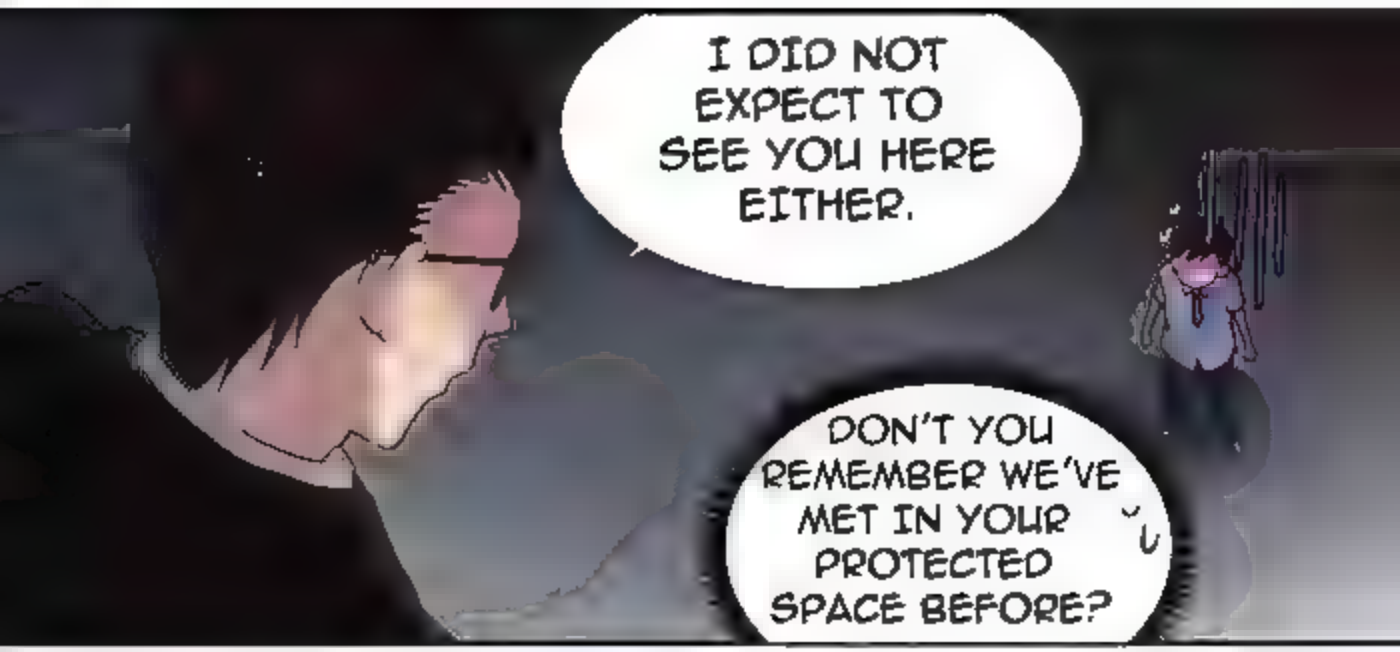

I SEE.
OK, IT MAKES SENSE...


FINE.
I'LL STAY OUT OF YOUR WAY.
ONE MORE THING!

WHAT ABOUT HIM?
GASP
!!

HE HAS, AT TIMES, BEEN DRAGGED INTO YOUR PROTECTED SPACES.
THIS COULD CAUSE PROBLEMS.
SSH
JIHAN HAN, FROM GRADE 2 CLASS 8.
YOU REMEMBER ME...!!!

H-HELLO, MR. HWAN.
I DIDN'T EXPECT TO SEE YOU HERE.


I DID NOT EXPECT TO SEE YOU HERE EITHER.
DON'T YOU REMEMBER WE'VE MET IN YOUR PROTECTED SPACE BEFORE?

TURN
YOU MEAN HE CAN ENTER MY PROTECTED SPACE AT ANY TIME?
IT SEEMS SO. HE MAY UNINTENTIONALLY RUIN YOUR PLAN.
IT'S OKAY FOR ONE OR TWO PARTS TO BE RUINED IN A DAY.
SSH
I'LL SEE YOU LATER.
TAP

SHHH

THE GAMER

STORY BY SANGYOUNG SEONG
ILLUST BY SANG-A

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